

Britain plans big increase in trade with Saudis

is to be a big increase in Britain's trade with Saudi Arabia at reducing this country's oil deficit, the Chancellor told MPs today within hours of his return from Riyadh. The Saudis intended

to increase their holdings of currency in Britain and to extend their investments. A joint working party would meet in Riyadh in February to draw up a medium-term programme for increasing trade.

Policy move to boost City morale

Noyes, Treasury Correspondent
Hours of his return apparently successful in Saudi Arabia, the Chancellor moved swiftly to reassure the City and to raise confidence in sterling on the exchange markets.
In a statement to the House, Mr Healey said that the conditions of the deal reached in Riyadh there would be big gains in British trade with Saudi Arabia, aimed at reducing the size of the oil deficit Britain now had to meet.
The friendly and profitable nature of the deal, Mr Healey said, had convinced the Saudi Arabian ministers that they would be able to help the International Development Fund, for recycling investment in the Middle East.
The deal placed great emphasis on services, that it was the Saudis who would maintain but to in-

crease holdings of currency in Britain and to develop and increase investment here in many spheres.
The Chancellor told the House that to assist the development of closer economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries it was agreed to set up a joint working party of officials. The aim of this committee, which would be holding its first meeting in Riyadh in February, would be to produce a medium-term programme for increasing trade.
While not specifying the particular spheres in which the investment would be increased, Mr Healey said it was desirable that funds of the oil producers should be invested not only in monetary instruments but also in productive enterprises.
He assured the House that the Government would make certain that industries of strategic or economic importance did not fall under foreign control.
As an indication of the closer links now being forged, Mr Healey said he had arranged for Lord Ashby, Master of Clare College, Cambridge, and Chancellor of Queen's University, Belfast, to visit Saudi Arabia within the next few weeks.
He would be discussing the development of university education.
Mr Carr, the shadow Chancellor, to explain reports that Saudi Arabia would in future expect oil payments to be made in dollars, the Chancellor said that Saudi ministers were as surprised and dismayed as he was by the reports that companies were selling sterling to meet tax and royalty payments in dollars.
He had been assured that this decision was purely to simplify matters. The arrangements by which American companies paid for their oil duties with some sterling went back for many years.
The difficulty this week, the Chancellor explained, arose from the accident that Aramco was not given notice of this decision by Saudi Arabia until it had already bought sterling to make the oil payments. The result was that it had to unload sterling in a hurry and this was what had led to the flurry earlier in the week.
Parliamentary report, page 5

Retail price index goes up 1.8%

Jay, Editor
Recent moderation of inflation has stopped, at least for the moment. The general index of prices rose 1.8 per cent in November, after a sharp fall in October. The first monthly increase in more than 11 months since the huge 3.4 per cent rise in April caused by Mr Healey's Budget.
The best general measure of inflation is the index of all items except the most sensitive food prices, which rose 1.8 per cent in November, a peak of 2.2 per cent in October. The index of all items, including food, rose 1.5 per cent in November, a peak of 2.2 per cent in October. The index of all items, including food, rose 1.5 per cent in November, a peak of 2.2 per cent in October.
The six-month change has been affected by the standstill of prices in August and September, caused by the 2 per cent value-added tax and in Mr Healey's July Budget.
The three-month change is such as the Chancellor used to calculate his estimate of an 8.1 per cent inflation rate before the election. The annual rate is now 21.2 per cent,

got of an inflation rate down to 10 per cent by the end of next month and into single figures in 1976 appears at present to be at, or indeed beyond, the limits of optimism. It may in fact turn out that the inflation rate will continue close to the present 15 per cent for some months, provided there are no new big disturbances to present conditions.
The rise in prices in November is ascribed by the Department of Employment, which collects the statistics, to "higher prices for domestic coal and coke, sugar, milk, second-hand cars, clothing and many other goods and services."
The Budget measures announced on November 12 will not have affected the November index, which measured prices on November 12. The increase in VAT on petrol and the easing of the price code will begin to be reflected in the index for prices in the present month, to be published in mid-January.
The scheme of threshold payments under Phase Three of Mr Heath's counter-inflation programme came officially to an end with the publication of the index for October a month ago. Had the scheme still been in operation the November index would have released another two threshold payments worth 40p a week each for eligible workers.
Table, page 17

Mr Sithole doubtful on Rhodesia settlement

From Michael Knipe, Salisbury, Dec 13
Rhodesia's two African leaders, Mr Joshua Nkomo and the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, free after 10 years in detention, gave their first press interviews here today and displayed something of their differences in political temperament.

Mr Nkomo, aged 57, the burly leader of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (Zapu) jovially refused to answer political questions. Mr Sithole, aged 54, the youthful-looking head of the Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu), spelled out a few realistic home truths regarding hopes for the future.
He had "very strong reservations" about the prospect of a constitutional settlement. Was not the fact that he had been freed of detention 10 years ago but the position didn't change?
"We cannot reach an accommodation with the Rhodesian Government because the Rhodesian Government is determined on minority rule. Until it changes its position I cannot see how we can reach an accommodation."
His 10 years in detention were "all right", he said, but his conviction of the justice of his cause and his religious faith had kept him going.
Had the loss of his freedom for a decade been worth it? Yes, because if people were to demonstrate their belief in their own cause they had to suffer.
Asked if he felt bitterness, he said he was not by nature a bitter man. What had he missed most? Free association with other human beings and listening to the radio for the first time in 10 years today was "marvellous."
Mr Sithole complained a little over the suddenness of his release and the speed with which he was rushed into the Lusaka discussions. "We didn't know what it was all about to start with. We were just approached at Que Que prison and told we were wanted by the Presidents meeting in Lusaka. So there it was. We had just to go there. And when we got there we found what it was all about. It was indeed incredible."
If some emissaries from Zambia had not been present when they were collected from prison, he said, he and his companions would have suspected they were being kidnapped.
"Frankly, we did not like the speed with which it happened. We were quite unprepared for it."
After so many years in detention, he explained, he and his companions were still looking upon the issues in an abstract manner when they were suddenly hurried into practical negotiations.
Mr Sithole said the effectiveness of the ceasefire between the guerrillas and the Rhodesian defence forces would depend on various conditions. He had no idea when the proposed constitutional conference would be held, and first he and the other African leaders had to assess the opinions of the people.
In the early years of their political careers, Mr Sithole and Mr Nkomo were allies. Mr Nkomo was the charismatic leader of the African nationalists and Mr Sithole his more

Children Bill contains wide-ranging reforms on adoption, fostering and new rights

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent
Children will be able to have separate legal representation from their parents in care proceedings and have their own wishes taken into account in adoption cases under the Government's new Children Bill, published yesterday. The Bill, which was introduced in the Lords last night, is expected to take effect in January, 1976.
It proposes wide-ranging reforms on the law relating to adoption and fostering and follows closely the private member's measure introduced by Dr Owen, now Minister of State for Health, who will be responsible for the Bill in the Commons. Both measures would give effect to the recommendations of the Loughlin report on the adoption of children.
The new Bill gives new rights to children, foster-parents, local authorities and adoptive parents to diminish gradually the rights of natural parents. It has been inspired by public concern over three related issues: the cases of dispute between foster and natural parents; the Maria Colwell case; and the knowledge that thousands of children linger in long-term care because their parents refuse to relinquish them for adoption.
The Bill will create a new legal status of "custodianship", under which foster-parents will be able to apply for legal custody after they have been caring for a child for one year.
The provision will enable foster-parents to take decisions about the child's future, for example, what kind of education he might have, without having to consult the natural parents. Relatives will be able to apply for custodianship after three months.
Natural parents will no longer be able to remove a child from foster-parents at will once the child has been in care for 12 months or more. After that time the natural parents must give 28 days' notice of their intent.
After three years the local

authority will be able to assume parental rights. After five years the foster-parents will be able to apply for adoption without fear of the natural parents removing the child.
In care proceedings the Bill will give the courts discretion to order separate representation of children where there is a clear conflict of interests between the child and his or her parents.
Separate representation will be mandatory in unopposed applications to remove a care order supervision order involving a child who has been ill-treated or neglected. In the Maria Colwell case the application by her mother to have a care order revoked was not opposed.
The courts will not be given expert guidance on when their discretion should be used, although the rules of court will be changed in the light of the Bill and the guiding principle for adoption cases will be taken into account. That principle states that full account of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of the child throughout his childhood must be taken into account.
The principle extends existing law by ensuring that the welfare of children is taken into account in the long term as well as in the immediate situation.
It also lays down that the courts and adoption agencies must, as far as practicable, ascertain the wishes and feelings of the child and give due consideration to them. Although in some custody cases that has been the practice for some time, it will be the first time the principle has been written into law.
The Bill will introduce a national adoption service, which will require local authorities to establish and maintain local services. But Dr Owen emphasized that the provisions would be implemented gradually.
The Bill is expected to raise public expenditure on adoption and allied child services from about £2.5m to about £3m a year.
Leading article, page 13



Mr Justice Caulfield at a cottage at Scarcroft, near Leeds, yesterday during a visit by the court in a murder trial (report, page 3).

Stonehouse case link with 'concrete coffin'

By Michael Horsnell
The Foreign Office yesterday asked Miami police searching for Mr Stonehouse, the missing British MP and former Minister, for a special report of their investigations into a Mafia-style "concrete overcoat" known to have contained a body.
A slab of concrete was taken to a beach in Miami close to the point where Mr Stonehouse disappeared, but it was broken up and the body it encased removed before police could examine it.
The Foreign Office is remaining discreet about its activities concerning Mr Stonehouse but it is now known to be intensifying its interest in Miami as fears grow that he has been murdered.
Sir Peter Ramsbotham, British Ambassador in Washington, is in close touch with Mr D. W. M. Pierotti, British consul in Miami, who is in daily contact with local police.
Part of the concrete coffin was left behind on the beach and the rest removed to a warehouse in the Lauderdale Lakes district of Fort Lauderdale, 20 miles from where Mr Stonehouse disappeared.
Police, who had been tipped off about a suspicious odour coming from the warehouse, left after a man explained that it came from "human waste and garbage" which had been near the slab, and that he had bought the slab for concrete testing.
But early next morning the man was seen breaking it up with a pneumatic drill and when police arrived he and another man fled.
Police emphasize there is still no direct evidence to connect the crime with Mr Stonehouse's disappearance but the Foreign Office, who want them to expedite their investigations, are expecting a report by Monday.
The theory that Mr Stonehouse, a former Minister of Aviation and Postmaster General, who developed considerable business interests in the past three years, was murdered by the Mafia was first put forward by Mr William

Inadequacies alleged as men die in blaze

Conditions that fire precautions were inadequate and that many firemen did not work yesterday by some residents of a west London hostel a fire in which seven men, including a fireman, died. But the manager said he used extinguishers which all worked properly.
The hostel owners said they had bought the building last year and applied for a fire certificate. Work was in progress to meet GLC recommendations.
Page 2

Singer hope on energy crisis

At the end of the Nato council meeting in Athens yesterday, Dr Henry Kissinger contended that the crises of France and the aid of States to the energy crisis were not contradictory and could be met. After talks with the Greek and Turkish foreign ministers the Secretary of State also was optimistic that progress on Cyprus was possible.
Page 4

W petrol price rise likely

Prices could rise by 1p a gallon because of a decision by the Organization for Petroleum Exporting Countries to introduce a simplified pricing system from January. This increase is on top of rises in petrol costs being considered by the Price Commission.
Page 17

78m for building societies

Building societies' net receipts in November were £178m, only less than October, the best for this year. December is also expected to prove a good month. The public's need for secure investment is believed to be the reason.
Page 17

Hospital workers urged to accept 19%

Leaders of 220,000 hospital ancillary workers last recommended their members to accept a 19 per cent offer. It would bring the lowest paid staff a minimum wage of £30 a week, in line with the TUC target, and add £60m a year to the wage bill.
Page 3

Birth BLMC prices increase

British Leyland yesterday announced its fourth price rise in a year which will add 7.5 per cent to the recommended price for cars, trucks and buses.
At the same time came news of a £50m aid offer from the Government until long-term requirements can be determined.
Page 17

England off to bad start

England made a bad start on the first day of the second Test against Australia at Perth today. They were all out for 208 runs and dropped a catch in the only over bowled against Australia.
Page 15

On other pages

- Letters: On the freedom of the press, from Sir Michael Hadow and others; on government policy towards industry, from Sir Joseph Lockwood; on the travel column, from the Dean of Norwich.
- Features, pages 6-12: Marcel Berlins on why the law must adapt to meet the needs of the modern society; Sportsworld: Brian James on a 40-year-old record that could go this season; George Hutchinson asks, where are all the inspiring leaders gone? Clive Barnes on American arts imperilled in an economic wasteland. The travel column looks at a sumptuous escape to Jamaica and golf in the Iberian sun.
- Sport, pages 15 and 16: Football: Norman Fox previews today's league and FA Cup programmes; Rugby Union: Scotland area trial prospects; Athletics: Neil Allen compares existing world records; Squash rackets: British amateur yesterday; Racing: Ascot, Nottingham and Caterick Bridge programme and prospects.
- Arts, page 9: Sheridan Morley talks to radio producer John Tydeman; John Percival reviews three ballets by Frederick Ashton; Leonard Buckley on a new television situation comedy series.
- Obituary, page 14: Sir Edward Maufe.
- Business News, pages 17-21: Stock market: Both bills and shares approved yesterday. FT index gained 2.2 to 152.2.
- Finance Bill: Oliver Stanley discusses the cost of giving and John Drummond examines the detailed implications of the proposed new rules for life assurance policies.
- Investor's Week: A detached look at discount stores; Francis Kinsman on a world without economists.

Home News	2, 3	Engagements	14	Services	14
European News	4	Features	6-12	Sport	15, 16
Overseas News	4, 5	Gardening	11	TV & Radio	8
Arts	9	Law Report	13	Theatres, etc.	8, 9, 14
Letters	7	Letters	13	Travel	15, 16
Obituary	14	Obituary	14	25 Years Ago	14
Parliament	5	Parliament	5	Weather	3
Safe Room	16	Safe Room	16	Wills	2
Science	14	Science	14		

Jewish complaint about 'Times' advertisement

By a Staff Reporter
The Board of Deputies of British Jews has referred an advertisement published in *The Times* on Wednesday to the Attorney General. The board says the advertisement, attacking contributions to Israel by British Jews, was "scurrilous" and an affront to the Jewish community.
The full-page advertisement, placed by the "Committee for Justice in the Middle East", had been rejected by *The Guardian*, which said yesterday: "We felt it was encouraging racial hatred."
It spoke of British Jews making untaxed charitable donations of millions of pounds to Israel, and said in part: "Isn't Britain more important? Shouldn't British money remain in Britain; to build more homes, to improve social services, to help pensioners? Shouldn't Britain come first?"
The board said: "The Board of Deputies of British Jews utterly repudiates the scurrilous suggestion that in contributing to charitable causes in Israel the Jewish community is less than loyal to Britain."
The advertisement would have the unqualified approval of those who sought to sow the seeds of racial hatred. "The Times has performed a disservice to its readers, who expect from it a high standard of journalistic ethics."
There was an Arab campaign to discredit the Jewish community and make them the scapegoat for the economic and social ills of Britain.
Leading article, page 13

Red Cross visit to Emperor Haile Selassie

Addis Ababa, Dec 13.—An International Red Cross delegation announced here today that it had visited Emperor Haile Selassie at the Grand Palace where he is detained.
The statement gave no details of the health of the Emperor, who is 82. It said the four members were allowed to talk in private to any detainees they wished and had visited some 200 of them in addition to the Emperor. They had made recommendations to the ruling council.—Reuter.

Mr Richardson to be next US ambassador

From Fred Emery, Washington, Dec 13
Mr Elliot Richardson is to be the next United States Ambassador to Britain, according to informed sources.
The former Attorney General who resigned rather than obey Mr Nixon's order to dismiss Professor Archibald Cox, the first Watergate special prosecutor, is said to have conveyed his acceptance of the post to President Ford.
"The Times"

Princess's visit

Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips will visit Australia next April, Buckingham Palace announced yesterday. They are going to Adelaide and will attend the International Equestrian Expo 1975.

BEFORE YOU TAKE DECISIONS, TAKE ADVICE.

A sensible precaution. Especially when you find yourself dealing with the complexities of commercial or industrial property. Whether your concern is acquisition, disposal or investment. You should enjoy the benefit of professional knowledge and confidential advice. The advice that we can offer you.

Richard Ellis
64 Cornhill, London EC3V 3BS
Telephone 01-263 3096

Richard Ellis

Chartered Surveyors

London papers stopped, page 2

HOME NEWS

Littlejohn movements known to police, solicitor suggests

From Arthur Osman Birmingham Police in Britain knew that Kenneth Littlejohn, the self-styled British spy, had made a visit to his wife and children in Devon, a solicitor said in a Birmingham court yesterday.

Mr Littlejohn, aged 33, was arrested by West Midlands police in Birmingham on Wednesday, nine months after he escaped from Mountjoy prison, Dublin, where he was serving 20 years for his part in a £67,000 bank robbery.

Parcel-bomb attacks on Ulster civil servants

From Stewart Tendler Belfast Security experts yesterday discussed the possibility that three parcel bomb attacks on the suburban homes of Northern Ireland civil servants may mark the beginning of a new campaign against government officials.

Son born in jail to Miss Bridget Dugdale

From a Staff Reporter Belfast Miss Bridget Dugdale has been secretly married for several years, it was made yesterday as she was recovering in Limerick prison after giving birth to a son on Thursday night.

Action stops two London evening newspapers

Final editions of the two London evening newspapers were affected yesterday by industrial action by members of the National Graphical Association.

Man says Oxford blast was a prank

From Our Correspondent Oxford One of five men on trial at Oxford Crown Court said yesterday that one reason he planted two explosive devices outside a Roman Catholic priory was because he understood a collection for the official IRA was made there.



Fireman Anthony Stewart, injured when the hostel roof collapsed, being taken to an ambulance.

Seven found dead in hostel fire

By Tim Jones Seven people, including a fireman, died in a fire which swept through a west London hostel early yesterday. The owners, Grand Metropolitan Hotels, said they would hold an urgent inquiry.

The hotel was purchased by the group in March, 1973, and an application for a fire certificate under the terms of the Fire Precautions Act, 1971, was made in July, 1973.

But because we value our staff and are anxious to provide them with every protection we asked for the hostel to be treated as an hotel for the purposes of fire safety regulations.

Pit militants fight on for £30 a week increase

By Paul Routledge Labour Editor The political clash that threatens to rend the National Union of Mineworkers over the social contract continued to reverberate yesterday.

Mr Dai Francis, communist secretary of the South Wales miners, accused Mr Joseph Gormley, the NUM president, of plotting the union's traditions by overruling subcommittee recommendations for a militant pay claim.

"Our members have given us a mandate to ask for a backdated rise of £18 on basic rates and another £15 in March," he said. "Whatever happens, we are not able to support vague claims that are labelled 'substantial'."

Judge criticizes case by Inland Revenue

A judge said in Welshpool Crown Court yesterday that he was disturbed by the way Inland Revenue officials had investigated a case of alleged fraud, and unhappy about the way the case had been presented.

Attack on 'quasi-religious cult' of EEC membership

By Our Political Staff Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, last night attacked those, including the editor of The Times, for whom he said "membership of the EEC has long been a quasi-religious cult."

Mr Prior added: "They are talking about fighting inflation but it is getting worse. They are talking about protecting jobs, but the danger signals for really high unemployment become more insistent. More and more people believe urgent government action is required."

Extravagant councils 'compete for staff'

By a Staff Reporter Extravagance by local authorities, especially about staffing, was criticized by the National Chamber of Trade yesterday in evidence to the Layfield committee of inquiry into local government spending.

The response, supported by press comments, of "a great many" of the 800 local chambers of trade and commerce had shown that "extravagance has been the keynote in local authority spending before and since reorganization."

Users to join Post Office Saturday mail talks

By Our Business News Staff The Post Office has revived its plan to let postal Office Users' National Council discuss with the Post Office the abolition of Saturday mail talks.

Working party will watch over HS 146

By Arthur Reed Air Correspondent A working party of representatives of the Government, management and workers was set up yesterday to study the future of the Hawker Siddeley HS 146 airliner project.

The project is being kept at a higher level than is envisaged by the Government. Mr Benn told the Commons on Monday that all he is prepared for at present is to make a modest contribution towards the keeping of the jigs, tools and designs in being, work that would normally be carried out as routine in the Hawker Siddeley project office.

The feeling in the air industry is that the chance the project being revived extremely small while the country's finances continue to severe strain.

Girl's body found in boat wreck

A girl's body was washed up on the Norfolk coast yesterday in the wreckage of a 50-ton fishing boat, the Nikki, which had sent out a distress call several hours earlier. It was driven ashore in a gale. Rescuers called off the search for a man.

Hospital workers urged to accept 19% pay rise

By Our Labour Staff Union leaders of 220,000 hospital ancillary workers last night recommended their members to accept a 19 per cent pay offer, which is within the social contract guidelines.

and the promise that further creases to keep up with the cost of living will be considered every six weeks.

Seasonal gesture

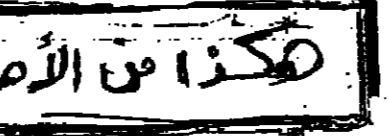
The local authority at Bury, Lancashire, which rebuffed a family at Radcliffe after fire destroyed their home, intended to replace toys lost in the fire intended for the parents' daughter, aged five.

Taverner man loses

A candidate of Mr D Taverner's Democratic Labour Association at Lincoln has been defeated in a by-election.

Weather forecast and recordings

Weather forecast and recordings section containing maps of the UK and Europe, and tables of weather data for various locations including London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow.



HOME NEWS

Embarrassing timing for debate on rising MPs' salaries

Government's business... first themselves in the... position that next... will be faced with the... of the Finance... Tuesday and an... debate on Wednesday... parallel with a... of the Prime Minister... in the public service... other statement from Mr... Lord President of the... asking the Boyle com... to report on the uprat...

economic debate Mr... Chancellor of the Ex... will be strongly chal... by the Conservatives... of the working of... the contract. Chapter... will be quoted to sh... contract has already... reached and is now... threat from some... a debating environ... will clearly need all... Minister's adroitness... further large increas... for the heads of the... lized industries, civil... judges, and others... hort will probably have... task in announcing... and Boyle of Home... invited to carry out a... uly review of MPs'... and tactically it will... cut for backbenchers... to an increase in top... while supporting their... claim... y event, the two-stat... week will be incon...

Arbitration service values independence

Independent Television... News... workers' dispute at the Stationery Office, strikes at Hoover in Scotland and Vickers in Barrow, the ending of the recent bakers' strike and, perhaps the greatest triumph, getting work started at the Seaford grain terminal in Liverpool, after two years of inter-union bickering. The debit side includes the National Graphical Association's dispute with Fleet Street newspaper proprietors and that between the National Union of Journalists and provincial newspapers. In both cases the parties went to the service but returned without a settlement. "We have no magic formula", Mr Mortimer commented. He is aware that to some observers some of the successes will look in economic terms like failure. The Scottish road haulage strike, for example, was resolved when the men received their full claim, £40 for 40 hours, a settlement that employers claim will greatly add to prices. "You must not think that the CAS is responsible for the terms of settlements; we do not mind if it is £30 or £40 or anything else. Our first responsibility is to try to secure a settlement", Mr Mortimer said. "We take account of and pay regard to the contents of the social contract, but we are not the interpreters of the social contract." Although he will admit to a "little nudging" by the CAS to achieve a settlement, Mr Mortimer is adamant that the service does not apply pressure on parties to a dispute to settle on particular terms. The exception is in cases of arbitration where the arbitrator is not a member of the service.

Other 'refused' £1,000 offer to return child

Manuel Leduc, a Canadian agent, flew the 11-year-old boy from his wealthy father's home in return for £1,000, which was paid in cash. Mrs Miron refused. Leduc, of Levesque Street, Montreal, admitted kidnapping Mrs Miron, aged 37, and the boy would be by force. The magistrate remanded him in custody for a week for reports to whether a custodial sentence should be imposed. He was found guilty of using threats and behaviour likely to cause fear of the peace. Ian Stamp, for the prosecution, said that in a summary court order was regarding the boy and other Steven, aged six, he condition did not specify. A later order was in favour of Mrs Miron. In September the boy was unlawfully taken from school in Leeds and left in a hotel. He at first offered money if the boy should return to his father in Canada a Christmas reunion. He threatened that other people would come to England at his husband's instigation and the child by force.

Appalling pressures on mother of eight

Doreen Lynch, a widow, 38, with eight children, lived on social security benefits of £18.50 a week. Marylebone magistrate court was yesterday. Mr Peter Goldstone, the magistrate, referred "appalling" pressures on Mrs Lynch, and a daughter, 16, were accused of stealing clothes valued at £35 from a store where the girl worked. Mr Goldstone read probation orders and said: "This is ter-

venient in the context of the economic debate in which the Chancellor, with Mr Foot in support, are expected to remind the trade unions of the cardinal importance of observing the terms of the social contract. Because the Opposition wanted a debate on the economy before the Christmas recess, with a motion in which the House will divide, the promised two-day debate on defence has now been cut to one day, on Monday. The unexpired portion of the debate will now come in January, when Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Defence, has completed his discussions in Nato about the proposed defence cuts. A further embarrassment is in store for the Government in a day when MPs on both sides are somberly conscious of a recession in 1975. The Cabinet has to reach a decision on whether to go ahead with the new parliamentary building scheme, opposite Big Ben tower. The latest estimate is that the scheme would cost about £30m, and it is scarcely conceivable that there would be much public support for it at a time when belts are being tightened. Meanwhile, the customary December White Paper on public expenditure, which will show the cuts in government spending, has been postponed until the new year. No time is ever felicitous for ministers and politicians to look after their own pay.

Law chief rejects bill of rights proposal

By Our Legal Correspondent Mr Archer, Solicitor General, has disagreed with the proposal of Lord Justice Scarman earlier this week that Britain should have a Bill of Rights, limiting the sovereignty of Parliament. A Bill of Rights might have saved the country from having the Industrial Relations Act in 1971, Mr Archer said at a Fabian Society meeting in Oldham, Lancashire, last night. "But Parliamentary debate is more responsive to changing needs and expectations than any written text. To enshrine for all future generations our own cherished ideas is to deny our children the right to disagree with us." The issue was whether in the last resort the British preferred to commit their liberty to judges or politicians. Although it remained important to protect individual liberty, the law today also had the more positive function of intervening in daily life as the champion of those who lacked economic power. "Most of them have no greater confidence in judges than in politicians", he said. "Law is not merely a brake on governments. It is an active process. We must beware of persuading ourselves that freedom can be embalmed. It cannot be preserved by any institution unless that institution has muscle power deriving from human vigilance and concern."

Tory plan to emphasize EEC benefits

By Our Political Staff The Conservatives are to strive to persuade Britain to stay in the EEC. Mr Heath, Leader of the Opposition, promised that in a speech yesterday to Bexley Borough Luncheon Club. "We shall launch a campaign to remind the British public of the advantages of Community membership and the very real dangers if Britain were to withdraw", he said. "As part of this campaign we shall organize a series of conferences in our big cities." The first will be held in Yorkshire at the end of January. "Through the auspices of the Conservative Group for Europe we shall launch an extensive information-gathering exercise in order to collect further evidence about the real effects and consequences of staying in or leaving the Community", Mr Heath said. "The real argument today for continued British membership is that we in Britain need all the international help and support we can get."

Couple for trial on baby charge

A couple accused over the taking of Stephen Robinson, aged seven weeks, from a mother and baby home at Borrowash, near Derby, were yesterday committed on bail by Derby magistrates for trial at Nottingham Crown Court. Alan Whitfield, aged 25, of Tamworth Road, Long Eaton, is charged with detaining the baby by fraud with intent to deprive his mother of his possession. His wife, Paulette, aged 24 is charged with taking the baby away by force with intent to deprive his mother of possession.

Cypriots allowed to stay

The 40 Cypriot refugee families who Harrogate Council in north London said, faced eviction yesterday because of unpaid hotel bills, have been allowed to stay in the hotels. The council has protested to the Prime Minister about Whitehall delays over their claim for special cash help.

Ferry charges up

High season cross-channel fares on British Rail Sealink ferry services are to go up next year, but car rates on all routes from Dover, Folkestone and Harwich in the low season, from January to May 23 and September onwards, will stay largely unchanged.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (not before duty paid; further duty may be payable on some estates): Byng, Mr Leonard Harold Robert, of Sandwich, sculptor and former stockbroker (duty paid, £36,269) ... £144,733 Dean, Mr Henry, of Bearestead, Kent (duty paid, £27,124) ... £87,578 Owen, Mr Robert Charles Dorsett, of Ellsmere, Salop (duty paid, £24,328) ... £215,871 Pick, Mr Thomas Raymond, of Deeping St Nicholas, Lincolnshire (duty paid, £16,286) ... £146,453

Law chief rejects bill of rights proposal

By Our Legal Correspondent Mr Archer, Solicitor General, has disagreed with the proposal of Lord Justice Scarman earlier this week that Britain should have a Bill of Rights, limiting the sovereignty of Parliament. A Bill of Rights might have saved the country from having the Industrial Relations Act in 1971, Mr Archer said at a Fabian Society meeting in Oldham, Lancashire, last night. "But Parliamentary debate is more responsive to changing needs and expectations than any written text. To enshrine for all future generations our own cherished ideas is to deny our children the right to disagree with us." The issue was whether in the last resort the British preferred to commit their liberty to judges or politicians. Although it remained important to protect individual liberty, the law today also had the more positive function of intervening in daily life as the champion of those who lacked economic power. "Most of them have no greater confidence in judges than in politicians", he said. "Law is not merely a brake on governments. It is an active process. We must beware of persuading ourselves that freedom can be embalmed. It cannot be preserved by any institution unless that institution has muscle power deriving from human vigilance and concern."

Jury visit death scene cottage

From Our Correspondent Leeds. A jury of nine men and two women yesterday travelled six miles to a ramshackle cottage where a woman is alleged to have been strangled. The jury, from Leeds Crown Court, filed into the tiny Valeta Cottage, on the main Leeds to Wetherby road at Scarcroft, where Miss Daisy Morris, aged 80, was found dead last Easter. Mr Justice Caulfield and court officials waited outside. A typist from the prosecution solicitor's office lay down in a corner in the position in which the body is said to have been found. The trial continues on Monday.



The Duchess of Kent inspecting Catering Corps staff at Aldershot

Jury visit death scene cottage

From Our Correspondent Leeds. A jury of nine men and two women yesterday travelled six miles to a ramshackle cottage where a woman is alleged to have been strangled. The jury, from Leeds Crown Court, filed into the tiny Valeta Cottage, on the main Leeds to Wetherby road at Scarcroft, where Miss Daisy Morris, aged 80, was found dead last Easter. Mr Justice Caulfield and court officials waited outside. A typist from the prosecution solicitor's office lay down in a corner in the position in which the body is said to have been found. The trial continues on Monday.

Wetherby road at Scarcroft, where Miss Daisy Morris, aged 80, was found dead last Easter. Mr Justice Caulfield and court officials waited outside. A typist from the prosecution solicitor's office lay down in a corner in the position in which the body is said to have been found. The trial continues on Monday.

Tom Anderson, aged 70, a cat catcher, of Harehill Lane, Leeds, has pleaded not guilty to murder. It is alleged that he strangled Miss Morris because she refused to move from the cottage and sell him the land. The trial continues on Monday.

Scouts' trek from No 25 would have pleased BP

By Philip Howard The Scout Association is moving this weekend from the house beside Buckingham Palace that has been its national headquarters pretty well since Baden-Powell bared his knees and started boys scouting. The rest of the lease on 25 Buckingham Palace Road, known to Scouts at the round earth's imagined corners as "25 BP Road", so neatly combining the initials of the founding father of the movement with the address, has been sold to the Grosvenor Estates. Yesterday the Scouts were moving out in a combination of trek and jamboree that would have gratified their patriarch. The main administrative departments are moving into temporary accommodation at the Baden-Powell international hostel in South Kensington, where a permanent extension for them will be ready in about 18 months. Headquarters departments dealing with Cub Scout, Scout and Venture Scout training are moving to Chingford, on the edge of Epping Forest. Records of leader appointments and Scout group registrations are moving into new offices at Lancing, Sussex. And the management of the 10 national Scout camp sites will be run from a small department temporarily situated near Addington, Surrey. The upheaval is part of the movement's policy of being prepared to make the most rational use of its resources.

In brief

Cattle protest cost £150,000

Demonstrations by farmers at Holyhead protesting against Irish cattle imports cost North Wales police authority £150,000 it was disclosed yesterday. Mr Philip Myers, chief constable, told the authority at Colwyn Bay that the sum involved the cost of food, travelling and overtime.

Nationalist link

MPs of the Scottish National and Plaid Cymru parties, who together outnumber the Liberals by one in the Commons, are to consider an alliance to establish themselves as the third political force. Mr Donald Stewart, Scottish National MP for the Western Isles, said in Cardiff yesterday.

Damages for scars

Damages of £1,800 against the Inner London Education Authority were awarded in the High Court yesterday to Patrick Noonan, aged 18, of Northfields, Ealing, whose face was scarred by sulphuric acid in an unlabelled beaker, squirted by another boy at a school in North Kensington.

Casino man remanded

Mr John Tsigrades, owner of the Carlton Casino at Torquay, was remanded in custody for a week by Torbay magistrates yesterday, accused of conspiracy to defraud the course of justice.

Dearer sugarbeet plea

A price rise of a third on sugarbeet crops is to be sought next year, the National Farmers' Union said yesterday.

Advertisement for an HMV hi-fi system. It features a large image of a record player with various components labeled: Teak woodgrain finish cabinet with contrasting black and silver colour control panels and removable transparent lid. The speakers, 100, have a rich leak veneer. Amplifier This gives a big 15 watts per channel speech and music rating at less than 1% harmonic distortion. Record Player Advanced Garrard 6-300 automatic/manual deck, with magnetic stereo cartridge with diamond stylus. Input Selector Buttons These enable you to select automatically the radio waveband you require—VHF, Medium, Long or Short. Stereo Radio Light Illuminates automatically when a stereo programme is being received. Automatic Frequency Control To keep VHF stations continuously fine-tuned, press the AFC button. Tape This button provides for playback from a tape recorder or tape monitoring with a 3-head recorder. Mono Press this for all records, mono or stereo. Gram Press this for all records, mono or stereo. Tuning A rotary control giving fine-tuning on all wavebands. Bass and Treble Both these controls have a very wide range. So—from all kinds of programme material—you can always adjust the graduated scales to get the most pleasing reproduction possible. Shape You may have noticed that on some stereo systems the bass and treble response can often seem dimmed at low volume. Press the HMV Shape button and this effect will be counteracted. Balance As you know the balance between the speakers is critical to good stereo reproduction. This sensitive HMV control enables you to adjust the set to attain this perfect balance. Off-On Switch and Volume. Model 2459 £135.55 (inc VAT)

For further details visit your local dealer. If you care about hi-fi quality, take great care about the small print. HMV put quality first. HMV is the registered trademark of EMI Records Ltd.

WEST EUROPE



Iranian students, wearing masks to avoid identification, give the clenched fist salute during an anti-Government demonstration at the Iranian Embassy in Rome yesterday. Four students were taken to a police station for identity checks.

Dr Kissinger hopeful after Nato talks on oil prices and Cyprus

From Roger Berthoud
Brussels, Dec 13

The approaches of France and the United States to the energy crisis were not contradictory and could be reconciled, Dr Henry Kissinger said at the end of the Nato Ministerial Council in Brussels today and on the eve of the meeting between President Ford and President Giscard d'Estaing in Martinique.

The American Secretary of State said he was "not pessimistic—quite the contrary" about a solution of the Middle East conflict.

After several meetings with the Greek and Turkish foreign ministers, he was also more hopeful than before that progress on Cyprus was possible, and could become visible; but he feared that if Congress continued its cut-off of military aid to Turkey, progress would be unlikely.

The six-monthly meeting of the 15 foreign ministers of the alliance was unusual for being devoted almost entirely to a "restricted" discussion on the economic situation and its dangers for the alliance. The ministers generally seem to

have been deeply impressed by their unwelcome foray into economic waters.

At his press conference, Dr Kissinger said that decisive action was now needed to maintain economic and political stability. The United States Administration was prepared to discuss its long-term intentions in the economic field with its partners before making any irrevocable decisions.

Allying to President Giscard's call for a conference between energy consumers and producers, Dr Kissinger said he saw no contradiction between consumer cooperation and a consumer-producer dialogue. The first was indeed a prerequisite of the second. He thought there was agreement on the desirable sequence of moves, but was not sure whether there was agreement on what constituted consumer cooperation.

Whereas Dr Kissinger repeated his view that the present price of oil was too high and should be reduced, Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, thought the problem was more to prevent prices going up further.

In the economic debate, Mr Callaghan is understood to have told Dr Kissinger that the

Western world needed a substantial degree of American refuel.

The Foreign Secretary also was hopeful on Cyprus, after seeing Mr Ezenbel, the Turkish minister, and Mr Bisio, his Greek colleague, who spoke to each other remarkably cordially in the council. Mr Callaghan thought the inter-communal talks could be resumed fairly quickly.

This morning Mr Callaghan discussed the Middle East, energy and Cyprus over breakfast with Dr Kissinger. On the way to Nato headquarters, his official Rolls-Royce was involved in a minor accident with a private car driven by a woman. He was not injured but the woman was briefly detained in hospital, where she received some flowers from Mr Callaghan.

In a more than usually unrevealing communiqué, the ministers noted the uneven progress towards détente in the various sets of East-West talks; reiterated the importance to the security and viability of West Berlin of the four-power agreement; and underlined the potentially dangerous consequences for the security of alliance members of the Middle East situation.

Lisbon businessmen accused of 'sabotage'

From Jose Sbercliff
Lisbon, Dec 13

The Portuguese Government has arrested four directors of the country's big tourist enterprise, Torralta, and two directors of the Banco Intercontinental Portugues. Other directors of these organizations and of the Credito Predial and Sociedade Financiera are on the wanted list. The public have been asked to help in their capture.

They are accused, among other things, of large-scale illegal monetary transactions, which are officially described as serious acts of economic sabotage harmful to the Portuguese people.

Among those arrested is Admiral Sarmiento Rodrigues, the Torralta chairman. He is a former Minister of Colonies and Governor of Mozambique.

Torralta's activities include running tourist hotels, golf courses, holiday villages and entertainments such as casinos. An official statement said that its management was to blame for failure to pay its workers, suppliers or firms employed on contract. Torralta, it added, was behind-hand in paying some £2m worth of holiday vouchers and £1.5m worth of holiday flat rentals. The bank is charged with illegally exporting nearly £700,000.

The first legal national congress of the Portuguese Socialist Party opened in Lisbon today. It had been a clandestine organization until the revolution of April 25 gave it legality.

Dr Mario Soares, the Foreign Minister and general secretary of the party, said in a speech that from the congress would emerge "the definition of a coherent political line, approval of our programme, and a declaration of principles and statutes".

Dr Soares added that the party's political charter showed "absolute fidelity" to the programme of the Armed Forces Movement, until the elections next March. It stood for close alliance with the Armed Forces Movement, which was the chief guarantor of democracy in Portugal, solidarity with the coalition parties of the provisional Government, and freedom to criticize government policy when necessary.

American aid, page 5

Soviet backing for Oslo's fisheries policy

From Our Correspondent
Oslo, Dec 13

The Soviet Union supports Norway's policy of declaring non-trawling zones off the coast of northern Norway. Mr Alexander Isikoff, the Soviet Minister of Fisheries, said today.

Meanwhile, the threat of a Government crisis was removed today by a change of policy by the Agrarian Party, which is the centre party. The issue was the Government's proposal to buy back half the 50 per cent share which Alcan, the Canadian aluminium company, has in the Norwegian aluminium firm Ordal og Sunddal Verk.

Until this afternoon the left-wing socialist group and the non-socialist parties were united in opposing the proposal. Then the Agrarians decided to allow a free vote for their members which will give the Government a majority.

Mr Kirk apologizes to German for 'hate' gibe

From George Clark
Political Correspondent
Luxembourg, Dec 13

After a stormy incident early today during a protracted sitting of the European Parliament, Mr Peter Kirk, leader of the Conservative group, apologized to Herr Ludwig Fellmeriaer, vice-chairman of the socialist group, for accusing him of conducting a "hate campaign" against the Conservatives.

Tempers flared when Herr Horst Seefeld, German socialist member of the Regional Policy and Transport Committee, moved the adoption of a report urging the EEC Commission to draw up a common policy on sea transport covering shipping clauses in trade agreements, conditions and pay of seafarers, sabotage, competition and flags of convenience.

Mr Tom Normanton, MP for Cheshire, moving the reference back of the report, said much of the work on which it was based

had been done before the enlargement of the Community, and new factors needed to be considered.

Herr Fellmeriaer, who was sitting next to Herr Seefeld, protested at repeated Conservative attempts to delay the adoption of the report.

Mr Kirk, intervening, said the report should be referred back because there were proposals in it which should be considered by the economic committee. He said: "If Herr Fellmeriaer can distract his mind from the hate campaign which he is pursuing against my group and concentrate on the proper proceedings of the European Parliament, then I think we might be able to get a reasonable solution."

The motion for a reference back resulted in a tie, 16 votes to 16, so the debate continued. At the conclusion the report was put to the vote and the Conservatives, joined by Danish MPs defeated it by 22 votes to 17.

Italian soldiers meet openly to demand reforms

From Our Correspondent
Rome, Dec 13

Following the example of discontented policemen, Italian soldiers have risked punishment to meet openly for the first time and demand better treatment.

Some 200 uniformed men of various ranks gathered in a Rome cinema this week to hear speakers demand the right to associate democratically and put an end to the "absolute power" of the military hierarchies. It was reported today.

They called for the abolition of the Fascist-inspired military regulations and military tribunals, and the right to guard

Maltese parliament votes for a republic

From Our Correspondent
Valletta, Dec 13

Dr Anton Buttigieg, the Maltese Minister of Justice, who had steered through the Bill changing the island from a monarchy to a republic, turned and embraced Mr Mintoff, the Prime Minister, in the House of Representatives last night amid cheers after the Bill had been passed by 49 votes to six.

The Leader of the Opposition, Dr Borg Olivier, who had allowed his Nationalist Party a free vote, voted against the Bill. There are 29 Labour members and 26 Nationalists. Labour newspapers waxed

lyrical about the passing of the Bill this morning.

The main changes in the constitution concern the Head of State. The first President, Sir Anthony Mamo, who has been monarch since 1971, will be sworn in tonight, safeguards against pressures (including spiritual) at elections and human rights, including compensation for confiscation of private property.

During the week's debate on the Bill Mr Mintoff assured the House that he had told the Queen that the change was in favour meant to be disrespectful to her or to the Royal Family.

Côte d'Azur ignores energy crisis

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Dec 13

There is no sign of the energy crisis this Christmas on the Côte d'Azur. The principal shopkeepers in Nice and Cannes have decided to have all the public illuminations for Christmas and new year switched on exactly as in the past.

But in Paris, under the eye of the French Government, not even the Champs Elysées will be illuminated.

Basques go on hunger strike

From Harry Debellius
Madrid, Dec 13

A group of nine young lawyers in the Basque city of San Sebastian have joined a political prisoners' hunger strike for amnesty, it was learnt here today.

They announced their decision last night after a meeting of the San Sebastian Bar Association at which the members voted almost unanimously to draw up a petition for amnesty. Basque political prisoners in 10 Spanish prisons have been on hunger strike since last month in the demand for amnesty for all political prisoners in Spain.

In the other main Basque city of Bilbao 132 lawyers signed a request for an urgent meeting of their Bar Association to discuss the matter of political prisoners as well as the present judicial

OVERSEAS

US Senate vote improves chance of trade reform Bill beating deadline to become law

From Frank Vogl
US Economics Correspondent
Washington, Dec 13

The Senate today voted 71 to 19 to impose a time limit on debate on the Trade Reform Bill. This action greatly improves the chances of the measure becoming law.

The Bill, introduced almost two years ago and seen by the Administration as one of the most important pieces of legislation to come before Congress for years, will be killed if it fails to get through both Houses before the end of this session. Congressional leaders hope to end the session next Friday.

Because of the time pressures it is still an open question whether the measure will reach the statute book.

The Bill could improve significantly the prospects for East-West détente, ease emigration restrictions on Soviet citizens and open the way for multilateral trade liberalization negotiations. It has still to get through the Senate and must then be dealt with by a conference of both Houses before returning to each House for a final vote.

Today's vote was on a so-called closure motion to restrict debate to a maximum of one hour for each senator.

The result does not reflect the degree of support for the Bill itself. Many senators, who oppose the Bill, voted in favour of closure to avoid bringing the Senate into disrepute for failing to act efficiently. Some of those who voted against did so because they believe in unrestricted debate.

A host of amendments have been introduced in an attempt to kill the Bill through shortage of time. Some deal with such matters as car insurance, con-

sumer protection and company taxation.

The debate next week will suffer delays, despite today's vote, because of procedural adjustments over whether many of the amendments are germane or not to the Trade Bill itself.

Behind the scenes intensive lobbying is going on, led by the White House for the Bill and by the powerful AFL-CIO trade union organization against it.

Even if the Senate votes in favour by next Thursday—the earliest possible date according to many observers—the conference of both houses of the Congress could well be protracted.

The House of Representatives has still not approved the amendment proposed by Senator Henry Jackson that directly ties the granting of loans and most-favoured-nation trade status to the Russians to Soviet assurances on the easing of emigration restrictions.

Mr Robert Byrd, acting Democratic leader in the Senate, today said he would propose that the session continue beyond next Friday if the Bill has not been dealt with adequately. But it is uncertain at this late date if even this influential senator will come out in the end for the Bill.

Senator Byrd has tabled an amendment himself, calling for the imposition of a \$300m (£130m) ceiling on the volume of subsidized credits that the Export-Import Bank can grant for Soviet-American trade.

President Ford stated earlier this week that the Bill was the most important now before Congress. The Administration maintains that getting negotiations started on the liberalization of international trade is vital at this time of serious economic

dislocation. The Administration has also left senators in no doubt that failure to pass the Bill could have most severe consequences for détente.

It is widely appreciated in Washington that the prospects for détente hinge to a great extent on the degree to which Soviet-American trade is allowed to develop.

The administration has refused to state if specific numbers of emigration permits have been given in written Soviet assurances regarding the easing of restrictions on emigration, but Senator Jackson today suggested that the confidence that the total will be at least 60,000 a year.

Meanwhile, the AFL-CIO attack on the Bill is gaining momentum, led by Senator Hartke of Indiana. The senator spoke for almost an hour against the closure motion today and he has proposed six amendments that are all clearly designed to delay Senate action.

Senator Hartke maintained that liberalizing trade now would lead to increased United States unemployment and to American companies diverting funds to foreign, rather than to domestic, expansion. The senator bluntly stated the AFL-CIO's case by insisting that the effect of the Bill would be to strengthen the economies of communist and other foreign countries at the expense of the American worker.

Today was only the eighteenth time that the senate has voted for a closure motion and it was one of the few times that such a procedural motion has gained the necessary two-thirds support on the first ballot.

The vote, according to one experienced observer, means that "the Senate has finally decided to get down to business."

New missile tested by Russians in Pacific

Washington, Dec 13.—The Soviet Union has fired its new SS16 missile some 6,000 miles into the Pacific in a test for the first time, the United States Department of Defence announced today.

A spokesman said that of the solid-fuel SS16s—lightest of four new Soviet missiles—landed in the Pacific last night about four hot apart.

It indicated that they carry single warheads. The SS16 is the only one of the new Soviet missiles which has not been equipped carrying multiple independently targeted warheads (MIRVs).

Mr James Schlesinger, the American Secretary of Defence and other department officials have predicted that the Russia will begin deploying some of their new missiles early next year.

The nuclear arms limitation agreement, while putting a ceiling on the number of strategic nuclear "delivery systems" on launching missiles, permits both countries to modernize their missile forces.

The relatively high level of missiles permitted under the strategic arms limitation talks (Salt) agreement, coupled with the Soviet Union's advantage in size has increased the possibility that the Americans may decide to develop a new weapon which could be launched from either aircraft or from some last vehicle.—AP.

Moscow, Dec 13.—The Soviet Union today announced its successful conclusion of missile tests in the Pacific Ocean. It said the tests, which began yesterday and were due to last 18 days, had been completed at the area would be open to a sea traffic from tomorrow. UPI.

Makarios acceptance of changed situation

From Henry Kamm
Nicosia, Dec 13

President Makarios has been described by a highly placed source as sobered and saddened by the return from exile last Saturday and convinced of the urgent need to begin negotiations for a political settlement between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities.

The Archbishop, whose attitude toward Turkey and the Turkish Cypriots has been unending for 14 years of national independence, was described by the source as ready to meet the Turks with a clear understanding of how greatly the situation has shifted in their favour since the Turkish invasion last summer.

Archbishop Makarios has toured a number of the camps in which more than 100,000 Greeks, driven from their homes in the Turkish-occupied north, have been living for nearly five months. He has become increasingly dejected over the absence

of progress towards allowing them to go home.

Archbishop Makarios's impressions of the new realities followed his meetings in Athens, just before coming here, with Mr Constantine Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, and Mr Glafkos Clerides, acting President of Cyprus during the Archbishop's exile and negotiator for the Greek Cypriot community.

A source close to the discussions described them as an effort by Mr Karamanlis and Mr Clerides to impress upon President Makarios the need to adjust his attitude to correspond to the post-war power relationship on the island.

At the end of the Athens meeting, Archbishop Makarios was described by the source as "ready to swallow the bitter pill", but demanded two weeks in Cyprus before signing the negotiations that Mr Clerides has demanded as a condition before he would undertake to resume his negotiating role.

New York Times News Service.

Argentina quotes Portugal as example to Britain

New York, Dec 13.—Argentina today called on Britain to follow Portugal's example of decolonization and to hand back the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) to Argentine control.

Señor Fernando Fernandez Escalera, senior official of the Foreign Ministry in Buenos Aires, told the United Nations General Assembly that his country expected "a clear and prompt reaction from Great Britain... similar to the change of policy seen in Portugal".

Argentina, he said, favoured self-determination of the native populations of colonial territories, "except in very special situations, as in the one of the Falkland Islands, where the original Argentine population was exiled and replaced by a population brought there by the colonialist power."

Rhodesia detention 'terrible'

Continued from page 1

intensely intellectual lieutenant. They split when Mr Sithole grew impatient with Mr Nkomo's more moderate approach.

The same tensions would seem likely to apply today but the two men and their supporters are at least for the present a united front from now onwards.

Mr Nkomo is a Churchillian figure with twinkling eyes and a hearty and ready laugh. The five years he spent in Camp Five at Gonakudzingswa

detention camp near the Mozambique border were the worst of his detention, he said. For three of those years he was allowed no visitors at all. "It was a terrible time. There were only three of us living in the camp all by ourselves."

The six-man police support unit guarding them were instructed not to talk to the prisoners, now, he said, he was having to learn to speak again.

He said he never gave up hope "with incredulous amusement. 'Give up hope, No. Never.' He grew a few vegetables, and he said, did a little carpentry and

13 charged over fraud on US celebrities

Los Angeles, Dec 13.—Thirteen people were charged yesterday in connexion with a fraudulent oil-drilling scheme in which scores of famous Americans lost millions of dollars.

A federal grand jury indicted 13 officers of the bankrupt Home-Stake Production Company of Oklahoma who were alleged to have defrauded the celebrities of more than \$100m (£43m).

Among those who invested in the company were the Hollywood star Liz Mitchell and Walter Matthau, Jack Benny, the comedian, the singers Barbra Streisand and Andy Williams, Senator Jacob Javits,

10-year drugs sentence on British engineer

Lagos, Dec 13.—Lawrence Arthur Graves, aged 30, a British aircraft engineer, was today sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment on charges relating to drug offences. The sentences, with hard labour, will run concurrently.

The offences were alleged to have been committed at Lagos international airport after Mr Graves had completed an assignment with a local air charter company.

The magistrate rejected a plea for deportation instead of imprisonment and said the law did not provide for any punishment other than a minimum of 10 years' imprisonment.

Mr Graves pleaded not guilty when he first appeared on August 28. The police told the court he had tried to smuggle Indian hemp in a torch when he was about to board a flight for London.—Reuter.

Russians arrest organizer of art displays

Moscow, Dec 13.—The KGB (secret police) today arrested Alexander Glazer, a Jewish collector, aged 40, who has been active in organizing displays of nonconformist art.

Friends of his were demanding a search with half dozen plainclothes and us formed police outside his flat. Mr Glazer said last night the KGB had questioned him earlier in the day about alleged speculation for money in art.

The Moscow newspapers yesterday accused Mr Glazer yesterday of doing the speculating himself.

Mr Glazer was released tonight after being held and questioned for three hours.

Renoir stolen in New York

New York, Dec 13.—A small Renoir painting was stolen from the Brooklyn Museum, an police immediately began a search of the building, the authorities reported.

The painting, entitled "Still Life with Blue Cup" and valued at some \$50,000 (£20,800)—was found to be missing yesterday from the fifth floor of the six-story museum by a security guard just before closing time.—Reuter.

Lebanon complains to UN over Israel air raid

From Our Correspondent
Beirut, Dec 13

Lebanon today lodged a complaint with the United Nations Security Council over Israel's air raid on a refugee camp in a Beirut suburb yesterday. The Government said one woman was killed and 10 people were injured in the raid.

Mr Philip Tekla, the Foreign Minister, said Lebanon had secured further Arab support in adopting suitable measures for repelling Israel attacks but gave no further details.

Palestine guerrillas in the southern coastal part of Lebanon today opened fire on Israel aircraft and helicopters as they flew over the area with out dropping any bombs.

reporters that one Israel aircraft was shot down and another damaged during yesterday's air raid.

Beirut, Dec 13.—A bomb exploded today at the offices of the independent weekly magazine Al-Diyar, located in a 12-storey building which also houses the Jordanian Embassy.

The motive of the attack against the magazine was not immediately known.—UPI.

Cairo, Dec 13.—Egypt introduced a new condition today for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East in what appeared to be a hardening of Cairo's political stance.

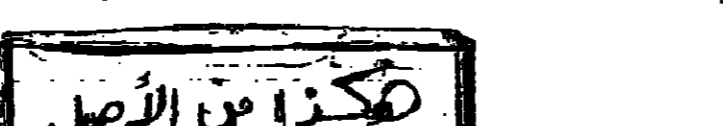
Greek airline's flights switched

Britons bound for Christmas in Greece on Olympic Airways' aircraft were being switched to other flights yesterday after the Greek national airline halted services in a dispute with its Government.

Most of the passengers from Britain, about 250 a day, had been given seats on British Airways flights and few had suffered inconvenience, said Mr Christos Economides, the airline's sales manager in Britain.

Mr Saxbe named envoy to India

Washington, Dec 13.—President Ford today nominated Mr Saxbe, the Attorney General, to be Ambassador to India. He will succeed Mr Daniel Moynihan, who has resigned.



The man who was Bulldog Drummond

Warren Tute meets Gerard Fairlie, the man behind a legend.

His best friend would not have called him good looking, but he was the fortunate possessor of that cheerful type of ugliness which inspires immediate confidence in its owner. His mouth was not small . . . in fact, to be strictly accurate, only his eyes redeemed his face from being what is known in the vernacular as the Frozen Limit. Thus was Bulldog Drummond described by Sapper, his creator. Drummond, perhaps more than any other fictional hero, symbolized the upper class, ex-officer world of the 20s and 30s. In fact Sapper based Drummond on Gerard Fairlie who now lives in an inland town in Malta, with the complete works of his friend P. G. Wodehouse lining his shelves as well as the 43 books he has written himself.



Gerard Fairlie today (far left) and with Sapper, Bulldog Drummond's creator, 40 years ago.

A gallery of Drummonds. Bottom row, left to right: Gerald du Maurier, who created the role for the stage; Carlyle Blackwell in the first and most faithful film adaptation (1922), here in disguise; Ronald Colman in *Bulldog Drummond Strikes Back* (1934) with Georges Regas

Below: two shots from *Bulldog Drummond Comes Back* (1937)—John Howard as Drummond with John Barrymore and Reginald Denny, the gagged sidekick Algy, with villain J. Carroll Nash; and in yet another version from the same year, *Bulldog Drummond Escapes*, Ray Milland as the hero with Porter Hall and Heather Ang



The "Bulldog" himself was at the door. Erect, tall and with the expected firm handshake, only the post-cavalry glasses suggested his 75 years. The famous nose "which had never quite recovered from the final one year in the public schools heavyweights" was, perhaps, a fraction more bulbous and slightly better illuminated, but he still exhibited the humorous expression of a man whose outlook on life has enabled him to find and to relish an ironic quirk in any given situation, however dire. I asked Gerard Fairlie: You were Bulldog Drummond, weren't you? I was and I am. In a sense I became the prototype after the event—needs a word of explanation—and I also wrote seven of the Bulldog Drummond books myself after Sapper died. The character itself was a composite. Sapper was 11 years older than I was. He spent most of the first world war in the trenches, ending up as a Lieutenant Colonel. The hero he created, Captain Hugh Drummond, finished the war with the DSO and the MC. I was a Cadet at Sandhurst in 1918 at Sandhurst and I never saw active service in what we then called "the Great War". But I think I probably struck Sapper as the sort of physical specimen he had already visualized for Drummond. I was a heavyweight boxer, I played rugby and I suppose was generally above average at games, in contrast to Sapper himself. But between us I imagine we could muster most of the main qualities and defects of the character. Maybe one reason why Drummond caught the imagination of that post-war world in the way he did. How did you meet? I was a Cadet at Sandhurst and he was Chief Instructor at the Senior Officers' School. Sapper's full name was Herman Cyril McNeill, but he hated his Christian names and every-one called him "Mac". We next met on the links at Nairn where I lived. I had sliced one off the first tee short of the fairway, Mac, playing just behind, did the same dropping one between my feet as I was looking for my ball. I broke all

records for the involuntary high jump and he came up to apologize. From then on a warm friendship developed, remarkable in that throughout our association—both working and social—it was never marred by any misunderstanding, let alone a single quarrel. Was there much of Bulldog Drummond in Sapper himself? Mac was certainly larger than life. Wherever he went his personality made a forceful impact. He was loud in everything—in voice, in laughter, in his clothes and in the unconscious swagger with which he moved. While in anyone else those would have been deplorable defects, you couldn't dislike him because he was a genuine extrovert with an immense zest for life. He was full of generosity. He loved people and he loved his work. Every moment he lived to the full, whether it was with men drinking and yarning, or with pretty girls, whom he adored, or simply in writing to entertain, which he did every day of his life. And he was prolific? Not really. He tended to be a slow worker, if you judge output by the number of words written in a day. He was enthusiastic if he thought he had written a good story, but remained always very critical of his own work. Nothing reached a publisher or an editor until Mac was satisfied he could not improve it. Never a day passed, if he could help it, when he did not sit down at his desk at nine o'clock and work through till lunch. He allowed himself to be interrupted only for a pint of beer at 11. The rest of the day was clear for golf or tennis or a visit to a rugger match. In the evening he met his friends and acquaintances and encouraged them to voice their opinions on all and sundry. After all people were his business. That was a lesson he taught me very early on and I learnt more from him than any of the other established writers who so kindly took an interest in my education. How did Sapper get started as a writer? In a most unorthodox way. He was a regular subaltern in the Army before the 1914 War, a fact which accounted for his very rigid code of behaviour he

imposed on most of his characters. Like so many of his fellow junior officers, Mac found himself perpetually short of money and, since he loved stories, he decided to try to write one himself for money. Taking a rude tale, not too well known, he amended and enlarged it and sent it to a peculiar periodical called *The Winning Post* run by an even more peculiar character called Robert Sievier, who ended up at a later date in front of the Lord Chief Justice. To the young author's surprise, Sievier published his story, omitting only to pay for it. So Mac screwed up his courage and went to see him in his office. Sievier, who at that time owned a famous racehorse and was a well-known gambler himself, gave Mac the full treatment. The drawers of the editorial desk were pulled open to reveal only a few coppers and stamps. No cheque book was to hand. In short the "penurious publisher" act was put over with all of Sievier's immense charm. "Now, young fellow", Sievier said, indicating the end of the interview, "I'm going to let you into a secret which will give you more money than ever I could pay you for your article. There's a big race up north today. Put your shirt on so and so. Because it's going to win." On the basis of "in for a penny", Mac rounded up his friends, pooled resources and laid on a sizable bet. The horse won at 50 to 1 and thus Mac's first literary effort did make him more money than he ever received subsequently for a short story—and he became one of the highest paid writers of the twenties and thirties. Shortly afterwards the Great War began. Soon stories of life in the trenches started to arrive at the *Daily Mail*. Northcliffe spotted their quality at once. He published them. But, as no regular serving officer could write under his own name, he dubbed the author Sapper. As such he became an instant success, so much so that when he tried after the war, to write under his proper name, the public would have none of it. Like all successful men, Sapper enjoyed and had a high respect for his luck.

How did you get involved? I turned to Mac in 1924 in the hope of trying to write fiction. I'd had five years of the Scots Guards, a rather expensive regiment, and I'd just married Joan. I decided I couldn't afford both the Army and Joan so, with her full support, I risked everything to try to make it as a writer. Naturally I started to collect the obligatory clutch of rejection slips and then luck came into it again. In 1924 the International Olympic Committee decided for the first time ever to hold a winter sports section at Chamonix. In the way things were done in those purely amateur days—and how much more pleasant they were!—a British bobsleigh team was raised by a friend of mine in the Brigade of Guards. I fell for the offer of a free trip to the Alps and I didn't even know what a bobsleigh looked like. They said that all they needed was a chap with guts in the middle of the five-man bob of about my weight and sufficiently disciplined to lean in either direction instantaneously on receiving the order. I thought I could cope. They took me and we finished fifth. While there, Fairlie was offered the job of official historian to the Olympiad, not only at Chamonix but at Paris in the June of that year. The fee? One hundred and fifty pounds. He jumped at the job. From his own short story writing in that first year, he made exactly ten pounds. Soon he was to become Special Correspondent of The Times for the winter sports section of the 1928 Olympiad, this time at St Moritz. He was also writing regularly on sport for the *Bystander*, and published his first novel *Scissors Cut Paper*.

But how did you come to be not only the prototype after-the-event of Bulldog Drummond but also to write seven of the books, and a number of Drummond short stories yourself? The short answer is that, apart from our close friendship, I could do some of the things Mac couldn't. Undoubtedly Sapper is in the history books as one of the most popular story tellers of his age. The sales of his books were enormous. Bulldog Drummond was first published in

1920 and the 1951 edition you have in your hand is the 65th impression. But I don't think he or anyone else would claim him to be a great writer. He could never produce dialogue an actor could speak, possibly because so much of his characterization was really caricature. For instance he only wrote one play entirely by himself and that was the ill-fated *The Way Out* produced at the Comedy Theatre in January, 1930. In spite of a most talented cast, his dialogue made the characters too unreal, too much like caricatures. You couldn't believe in them. I think the stage is the most difficult medium of all to write for as it's three dimensional. Mac could not manage it. You can get a reader "willingly to suspend his disbelief" in a novel or on sound radio because once his own imagination is brought into play, half your work is done for you. But on the stage when the curtain goes up, characters and situation have to be absolutely real. They must be seen in the round. Of course there was the Gerald du Maurier production which ran a year, but Gerald was a great actor and the actor managers of those days usually rewrote any script they were given to suit their own particular talents. Mac was the first to acknowledge "the great contribution du Maurier made to the play"—a euphemism for saying he rewrote it. But then du Maurier himself was larger than life. He had mannerisms on the stage which contrived to give his audience an impression of absolute naturalness. Remember that this was 1921. What was natural then would be grotesque today. He couldn't even have repeated his performance ten years later when Ronald Colman did it as a movie. Everything has its time. I remember lunching with Gerald and Mac at Ciro's—that splendid restaurant-club in Orange Street—when Gerald analysed the play's success. "I don't attribute this solely to its entertainment value," he said, "Bulldog Drummond appeals to the youth of the country because in him they can recognize the sort of leadership they badly need and aren't getting any more." You always have to remember the lost generation and the terrible slaughter of

that war to end all wars . . . the gaps in the families . . . everything had been uprooted. If only they could find a Bulldog Drummond to lead them, a man who understood all classes of the population. . . . From the patrician point of view? Yes, but that was how most people thought at the time. If they could find a hero who never hesitated to give all his time to help those in need, who was a great patriot—the British Empire was still very much alive and we'd won the war—a tough, fearless man unwilling to wait for diplomats and politicians to make up their minds but who went all out for immediate justice even if it proved to be a bit rough at times, then at least part of the future would be signposted. A visit to the play or a reading of the book gave people an escape into a world they longed for themselves. Bulldog Drummond was a benevolent, hard headed, individual hero, the sort of person no one seems to want today—unless it's James Bond. Something of a fascist? I suppose so, although I'm not at all sure what that means. Would our fashionable Marxists call Robin Hood a fascist? Drummond was certainly not a political fascist, not a miliary Hitler or Mussolini—just a good honest chap, loyal to the King, who believed that British was Best, as in those days it most certainly was. Sapper died in 1937 at the early age of 48 but by then you were a well established author in your own right, yet you were still associated in the public mind with the Bulldog Drummond image? Mac and I were great friends. That was the basis of it, and this was certainly known in the profession, if not by the public at large. Then, some three years before he died, Mac and I were invited to broadcast in the top BBC programme of the time in *Town Tonight*. In that programme Mac admitted to the world, though in very lighthearted terms, that he had based his Bulldog Drummond character on me. That wasn't strictly true but from then on it was what the world firmly believed. Was it difficult to live up to?

In the sense that people have always expected more from me in the way of physical courage and resource of mind—yes. Like all of us who went through the Second World War, there have been times when I've been very frightened indeed. In fact scared stiff. I don't think Bulldog Drummond ever was. I mean, as I said in that broadcast, it's all very well but every time anything goes wrong at home—you know, strange noises downstairs in the dead of night—I'm expected to do something about it. And if I say "It's mice", my wife always remarks "Drummond would do something about it." Now I ask you. . . . Sapper died at very short notice, so to speak. Yes. It was cancer of the throat and mercifully quick. And you were collaborating on another Bulldog Drummond play at the time? A comparatively new management, O'Brien and Linnet, wanted a play for Leslie Banks. They commissioned Bulldog Drummond Hits Out. As it happened, Leslie Banks and, later, Clive Brook both turned down Bulldog Drummond parts because they were too "physical" in type for them. Eventually Henry Edwards agreed to play the part with a then unknown actress called Judy Campbell, subsequently to become Noel Coward's leading lady, playing opposite. We opened in the summer of 1937 at Brighton—but Mac was by then far too ill to attend. This was a very moving time for me. Right up to the last moment, Mac was consulted on all aspects of the script and casting, and one evening in mid-August—I remember it had been a day full of sun and colour—I found Mac in his Sussex garden where I went to bring him up to date with the news. We talked together for a long time alone but not about the play. Mac opened his heart to me that evening and told me for the first time that he knew he was dying. I said very little as the occasion was too much for me. He asked me to do several things for him when he was gone, which I'm happy to have been able to do. He told me I understood Bulldog Drummond better than anyone else. I asked me to protect the name of the character for I was worth, always. He longer wanted to hear details about the play, simply saying that he was leaving all that sort of thing to me. He finished by saying: "Well, good luck Joe, it's all been fun", which left me speechless. The next morning he was dead. And he asked you to carry on with the Bulldog Drummond series? No. But he had anxiety about finance, afraid that would leave his widow less well off than she should be, so therefore also their two sons. Then some weeks later, B. Watt of A. P. Watt & Son (who was also my agent) got together with the Hodder-William brothers who controlled Hodder and Stoughton, our publishers and suggested I should carry on with the series of Bulldog Drummond books. I agreed with very considerable misgiving. How would you sum up *wh Bulldog Drummond has done for you?* Well—the character has undoubtedly given me a great deal of most useful publicity. Drummond has also given me the gift of writing about him and of other characters, especially Al Longworth, the nearest perhaps to P. G. Wodehouse which I much enjoy. I've done my best to keep the characters going largely for the benefit of the family he left behind him. "A perfect short story Sapper used to say, "is identical to the perfect iron shot in golf. It must start with a ban which immediately creates interest, just as the golf ball crisply hit away by the club. Then the interest must continue in an ever-increasing trajectory until the climax is reached, just as the ball flies straight at true, rising all the while. The finish as quickly as possible with all the back spin you can use to cut out any superfluous words." If you analyse his short stories or his novels, you can see that he faithfully followed his own precepts. When it came to the theatre, however, he remained—as he had been when we first met—one of the finest short high fliers off any te that I've ever seen. © Warren Tute, 1974



Chess Vintage games

Bernard Shaws, the grand Russell and the apton Mackenzie (the latter incidentally, known as a keen player) have all done us immense favour of showing a long life can be consistently interesting providing the old retains that essentially youthful quality of Renaissance positivity. They were not only interested in passing on to us impressions of greatness in chess, but also managed to give this. For some reason or other it is mostly from Georgia the Soviet Union that one of these Munchausen-like tales of men who are in their 80s and who tell of the time they saw Napoleon when he was young. What Napoleon was doing in Georgia I do not understand; perhaps he was the wrong man to be sent from Moscow or perhaps he was the wrong man to be sent to the pursuit of Napoleon under the leadership of Prince Bagration. No, this possibility will hardly fit in the time scheme since he was equally dashing in his 30s—became famous (or infamous) for his quarrel with Gorin in the later years of the 19th century.

The nearest counterparts to these tales in the chess world seem to be the Dutch chess-master Forest was still playing chess in his late 80s. I visited the Netherlands in 1946. The pleasure I got from winning first prize in a small international tournament at Baarn was enhanced by the circumstance that practically every other person I met was over 80. And yet were endowed with more than 50 years of chess in England.

Another aspect of lengthy life that intrigues me comes from a record of tournaments in which many years, too, I have seen records of the percentages of all Soviet players in this respect in the world championship. Pressure made me abandon this line of years ago, but I see certain all-union chess named V. Dvorkovitch engaged in compiling chess statistics. On the eve of the 22nd Soviet Chess Championship he gives in an article the latest number of "64" Russian chess newspapers published in Moscow) some about those who have most and done best in the world championship.

Record holder is Mark For, who has played in 21 Championships and out of 394 games won 136, 188 and lost 70—a percentage of 58.7. Next comes in with 19 tournaments,

360 games, 115 wins, 175 draws and also 70 losses—56.1 per cent. Korchnoi, the defeated player in the recent candidates final, has a better percentage, 61.2, but has played in fewer tournaments, 16, with a total of 304 games, 115 wins, 142 draws, and 47 losses.

The best performance of all is that of the former world champion Botvinnik. He has played in 12 tournaments with 213 games, winning 111, drawing 77 and losing only 25 (70 per cent).

Other good scores are Geller, 15 tournaments, 284 games, 108 wins, 118 draws and 58 losses (59 per cent). Smyslov, 17 tournaments, 320 games, 101 wins, 172 draws, 47 losses (58.5 per cent). Tal, 13 tournaments, 246 games, 101 wins, 108 draws, 37 losses (63 per cent). Polugaievsky, 14 tournaments, 262 games, 95 wins, 133 draws, 34 losses (62.1 per cent). Spassky, 11 tournaments, 202 games, 79 wins, 101 draws, 25 losses (63 per cent). Petrosian, 12 tournaments, 226 games, 77 wins, 126 draws, 23 losses (62 per cent).

My appetite is whetted. I must bring my own statistics up to date. The same number of "64" contains a selection of games from an international tournament at Manila. I give an interesting game in which the Argentine grandmaster Quinteros, who will be seen in action at Hastings this year, succumbs quite suddenly.

White: M. Quinteros. Black: L. Ljubojevic; QP Queen's Indian Defence.

1 P-Q4 N-KB5 5 B-N2 B-K2
2 P-K3 P-B4 6 N-K3 P-B3
3 N-K2 P-B3 7 N-B3 P-B3
4 P-Q4 N-KB5 5 B-N2 B-K2
6 P-K3 P-B4 7 N-K3 P-B3
8 N-K2 P-B3 9 N-B3 P-B3

Best; otherwise White gains an advantage in the centre by P-Q5.

Or 8. KxP, BxB; 9. KxB, Kt-B3 or Q-B1 with a good game for Black.

11 P-Q4 N-KB5 12 B-N2 B-K2
13 P-K3 P-B4 14 P-Q4 N-K3
15 N-K2 P-B3 16 N-B3 P-B3

A weakening move; better was 14. P-K4.

17 P-Q4 N-KB5 18 Q-K3 B-B3
19 P-K3 P-B4 20 R-Q4 Q-K2
21 N-K2 P-B3 22 N-K1

Not at once 20. P-Q4, on account of 20... BxKt; 21. BxB, Kt-RP.

22 P-Q4 N-KB5 23 Kt-K2 P-Q4
24 N-K2 P-B3 25 Kt-K1

A strong move; White's Q side is vulnerable to attack owing to the loose nature of his pawn structure there.

26 B-B3 Kt-K1 27 P-B5 P-P
28 R-Q4 N-K4 29 Q-B4 R-O6
Or 28. Q-B2, RxKt; 29. RxR, Kt-RP; 30. PxBt, QxP ch; followed by QxR.

White resigns. He loses the Queen after 29. Q-K5, P-R3.

Harry Golombek

Clive Barnes/New York Notebook Saving the Metropolitan



Anthony Bliss: the show must go on.

We live in strange times. The United States, before what even President Ford now blearily and myopically sees as a recession, was very probably the very richest nation the world had known. In those happy days of golden dollars and Fort Worth dollars, the country gave precious little to the support of the arts. It has increased, but in comparison with the need, is still precious little.

American arts are perhaps not more imperilled by the economic wasteland of the western world than, say Europe, except that the funding here is far less secure and, significantly, far less traditional than, certainly, in continental Europe. Britain, like the United States, is a comparative newcomer to the large-scale funding of the performing arts. In most parts of Europe such funding is taken for granted, just as is education. But even in Britain there does seem to be a more tolerant attitude towards funding for the arts. Admittedly there is no longer Jennie Lee to beat the drum and wave the sabre. On the other hand there does appear to be—and perhaps the view looks more sanguine from New York—a wary acceptance from Britain that the arts are an essential component, and, indeed, must be paid for. I am not yet convinced that America takes such a liberal view. Here there will always be that puritan streak that says: "If they want it, let 'em buy it." Such a view of course, ignores the arts as a social and as a national resource. It is yahoism. But the yahoos are everywhere.

Recession and inflation have a very special implication for the arts. You can do something great for five dollars, but quite possibly you could have done something even greater for ten. And there are some artistic products that, if you want them, you cannot cheat on. I mean just how cheaply can you do Wagner's Ring? Also in an inflationary spiral—which seems more and more like Dante's circles of hell—the income for the performing arts goes down at the very time the costs are going up. People in a declining economy make cuts first in luxuries, and no one in recorded history has ever starved through missing a performance of Hamlet or Rigoletto. And mention of Rigoletto brings me to the Metropolitan Opera House—which at the moment is the sick man of the American arts scene. It does not appear to be able to pay its bills at the rate at which it feels its bills need to be paid for it to continue as an artistic force.

On November 21 something quite sensational happened. At a board meeting of the Met, Anthony Bliss was appointed executive director, a new post

specifically placed over the general manager, Schuyler Chapin. In the past the general manager, and Mr Chapin's immediate predecessors were the late Goeran Gentele and Sir Rudolph Bing, has always been the top paid executive.

The 61-year-old Mr Bliss, who is by profession a lawyer, was for many years president of the Metropolitan board, as was his father before him. More recently he has headed the fantastically successful board of the Joffrey Ballet, generally regarded as fiscally secure arts management. Now Mr Joffrey's loss is to be the Met's gain. (Although in fairness, what Bliss has created for the Joffrey company—and he is remaining as its nominal board head—cannot be destroyed. He has fine people to take over.) But what Mr Bliss will have to do with the Met will be fascinating.

He says: "I've been given the mandate to save the house." This is the absolute truth. However, a word—or even a sentence or a paragraph—must be put in favour of Mr Chapin. He was the stand-in after Gentele's tragic death, but he does seem to have followed Gentele's view of artistic planning.

Sir Rudolph was the compleat suocral. Probably even his best friends would hesitate to call him musically sophisticated—he was no David Webster, John Tooley or George Harwood—but he did get things done, and he was magnificent at public relations and fund-raising. However, Mr Chapin, the now much-maligned Schuyler, has in fact a better Metropolitan programme this season than, defensibly, ever before. The man is trying to coax the Met into the twentieth century. It seems—at least one hears it on all sides—that his control of the nuts and bolts of administration is not strong. Certainly he does not have the unaffected PR image of Bing. Bing is a man one is always happy to be left with at a cocktail party. He has a mind like an interestingly honed razor.

Bliss, by the way, is even cleverer. He is precisely the sort of man that makes you wonder why he never went into politics, and by the time you have answered that question you are right back with the recession.

Bliss should be a very good thing with the Met, and might work well with Chapin. He is

our best bet for the survival of our major opera house. A few days before he unexpectedly accepted the job (it was unexpected for him as well) I was having lunch with Bliss, and while talking about this and that, he offered his opinion that "For the Met it is either five minutes past, and no one can tell which." It was a remark not made for the record, and I hope I am not breaking a friend's confidence, but it now seems extraordinarily relevant. Hopefully Bliss, with his caniness and sensibility, might be able to put that clock back. But he will need financial support.

I am very concerned with the image the National Theatre is offering to America. It appears to be entering into financial arrangements with American managers that make the maximum use of the National Theatre name and yet the minimum use of its expertise. It looks as though the National Theatre is not taking America seriously when it sells its reputation very cheap for what it must think is an easy buck. Well, it isn't. In quick succession New York has had two productions damaging to the reputation of the National Theatre.

I understand that we are going to have John Dexter's staging of *The Misanthrope*, with Diana Riggs and Alec McCowen (and a complete National company apart from Michael Aldredge who, of course, could have appeared there if ever he had asked) and this will be very welcome. If, after the two present disasters, it is now still viable.

The National Theatre seems to be selling its productions as if they were some kind of franchise, like MacDonald's hamburgers or Kentucky Fried Chicken. It lends its name to support Franco Zeffirelli's all-American production of *Saburo*, Sunday, Monday, which died very swiftly, and then it perpetuates a sub-standard version of Clifford Williams's production of the all-male *As You Like It*.

This was not at all good for the reputation of the National Theatre, or for that matter British acting. Only one person in the cast so far as I could tell, had ever actually appeared with the National Theatre. Perhaps some of the others—on the pattern of Michael Aldredge—"could have done" but they certainly hadn't.

These two plays, *Saturday, Sunday, Monday* and *As You Like It*, are the first plays to be offered in New York attached to the National Theatre label. Total disaster. The Royal Shakespeare Company orders things differently. At least it does in America.

The Times ghost story competition

The closing date for *The Times*/Jonathan Cape Ghost Story Competition is January 10. The judges will be Kingsley Amis, Patricia Highsmith and Christopher Lee, with John Higgins of *The Times* and Tom Maschler from Jonathan Cape.

Scripts, of 6,000 words or less, should be typed in double spacing on one side of the paper and sent to *The Times* Ghost Story Competition, Times Newspapers Limited, PO Box 7, New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1. Pseudonyms may be used, though actual names and addresses should also be provided, as well as stamped, addressed envelopes if stories are to be returned. The prize winners will be announced before Easter.

Bridge Animal ruses

Victor Mollo has long been the Victor Borge of bridge and no one tells better stories of calamity at the card table. *Bridge in the Fourth Dimension* (Faber and Faber, £2.80) is the sequel to *Bridge in the Menagerie* and contains a delightful selection of incidents which ought to have occurred even if there never were such deals.

The mixture of humans and animals who constitute the Griffin's Club are normal players with their imperfections magnified—the Hideous Hog who rarely has a losing session and personifies the Gloating Winner, the Secretary Bird who knows all the laws but little about card play, the Toucan who can only count points, Papa the Greek with his unlucky expertise together with others who, like the Hog, mostly sit and sneer.

The character who invites our sympathy is the Rueful Rabbit; he is almost too silly to be true, yet every mistake he seems to make rebounds to his advantage. He knows and quotes technical terms, giving a neat twist to them: "I see it quite clearly: I rectified the count by losing a winner." Here you see him as South, at the wheel, with Papa on his left, after the Hog has dealt.

West led a trump and presented the Rabbit with an awkward problem. There is the temptation to duck a round of clubs, but East wins and leads a heart holding declarer to 10 tricks. The answer is so obvious when it is explained that every reader will wonder why he did not see it immediately.

Declarer must keep East from the lead, so he plays for him to have either the ♠A or ♠Q but not both. After winning the diamond in dummy he plays the ♠K and, when it is not covered, discards one of his small clubs. West can do no better than win with the ♠A and play his last trump. South can now establish dummy's long clubs for two heart discards, with the trump as a card of regency. The Rabbit found the perfect example of loser on loser play.

The unkindest cut of all is reserved for the last deal when the Hog doubles seven spades with ♠J 9 7 5 3 2 ♠Q 7 6 ♠6 5 4 ♠A and fails to break the contract.

Edward Mayer

CONTRACTS & TENDERS

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Ministry of Finance and National Economy
General Housing Department, Riyadh

Notice for pre-qualification of contractors for the construction of no less than 100,000 Houses and Apartments

in different places of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Applications are invited by the General Housing Department, Ministry of Finance and National Economy, Riyadh for prequalification, from large reputed and International Contracting Firms, who are capable and wish to compete for the construction of no less than 100,000 houses and apartments, within a construction period of three years, in different parts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by industrialized/mechanical methods of construction (prefabricated or semi-prefabricated in cement concrete/ reinforced only). The object is to expedite the construction at economical costs.

The Housing Project, in addition to construction of houses and apartments, may include construction of Public Buildings.

The Contractor may be required to submit his own designs, if he has any, provided that such designs suit the requirements of the Kingdom and, at the same time, save cost and time to the Government. Only such Firms or Contractors should apply, who own or have acquired the right, to directly operate such equipment for industrialized or mechanized construction with a minimum experience of 10 years in executing huge housing projects in the International field and have successfully used their system for not less than five years.

In addition to any relevant data that they may wish to submit, which can help evaluate the contractors' ability to handle such Projects, the following information may be supplied:

- 1) Full name of Company/Firm and address with its Head office where correspondence is to be directed.
- 2) Record of Company's experience on similar Projects undertaken by the Firm during the last 10 years indicating its location, scope of work, approximate cost of work, time taken for its completion and also the name of the owner.
- 3) Particulars of the system for industrialized/mechanized constructions with the details of equipment for the operation of such system.
- 4) Results of quality tests, technical approvals, or controls by official national or international bodies.
- 5) Examples of prototypes with detailed description and rough estimates of production costs, work completion conditions, and period of construction for completion.
- 6) Name of Company's Directors, Partners or Associates with qualifications and experience of top Engineers.
- 7) Particulars of the Principal Design Team of Architects

and Engineers with qualifications and experience.

- 8) Details of work in hand, if any, indicating name of its owner, approximate cost, scope of work and expected time involved in its completion.
- 9) Certified copy of last year's balance sheet.
- 10) Details in respect of litigation or arbitration cases, if any, and its result thereof.
- 11) Statement of financial standing with necessary bank certificates.

The applications with the above mentioned details duly supported by documents should be furnished in duplicate in a sealed cover, within one month from the date of this notice, to:

The Ministry of Finance and National Economy,
General Housing Department,
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Riyadh
Telex No: 20021/Finance/SJ.

All establishments, who do not fulfil the above mentioned requirements are requested not to apply, otherwise any application not in conformity with the above requirements will be ignored.

saudi Arabia

ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area ALSO ON PAGE 14

OPERA AND BALLET
COVENT GARDEN 240 1911
THE ROYAL OPERA
Tonight and Tuesday 17.21 at 7.30

THEATRES
ADELPHI 361 7611. Opera Mon. 8.30
ALBERT 363 3074. Evening 8.00
ALHAMBRA 363 3074. Evening 8.00

THE NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight and Tuesday 17.21 at 7.30
THE ROYAL OPERA
Tonight and Tuesday 17.21 at 7.30

THEATRES

HAYMARKET 360 8333. Evening 8.00
MAYFAIR 363 3074. Evening 8.00
MAYFAIR 363 3074. Evening 8.00

THEATRES
ADELPHI 361 7611. Opera Mon. 8.30
ALBERT 363 3074. Evening 8.00
ALHAMBRA 363 3074. Evening 8.00

THEATRES
ADELPHI 361 7611. Opera Mon. 8.30
ALBERT 363 3074. Evening 8.00
ALHAMBRA 363 3074. Evening 8.00

THEATRES

PICCADILLY 437 1506. Previous
MAYFAIR 363 3074. Evening 8.00
MAYFAIR 363 3074. Evening 8.00

THEATRES
ADELPHI 361 7611. Opera Mon. 8.30
ALBERT 363 3074. Evening 8.00
ALHAMBRA 363 3074. Evening 8.00

THEATRES
ADELPHI 361 7611. Opera Mon. 8.30
ALBERT 363 3074. Evening 8.00
ALHAMBRA 363 3074. Evening 8.00

THEATRES

WESTMINSTER 437 1506. Previous
MAYFAIR 363 3074. Evening 8.00
MAYFAIR 363 3074. Evening 8.00

THEATRES
ADELPHI 361 7611. Opera Mon. 8.30
ALBERT 363 3074. Evening 8.00
ALHAMBRA 363 3074. Evening 8.00

THEATRES
ADELPHI 361 7611. Opera Mon. 8.30
ALBERT 363 3074. Evening 8.00
ALHAMBRA 363 3074. Evening 8.00

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

St. Paul's Church, Northampton, S.W.1
Messiah Handel
St. Paul's Festival Choir and Orchestra

THE BARRICAN SINGERS
THEATRES
ADELPHI 361 7611. Opera Mon. 8.30

THEATRES
ADELPHI 361 7611. Opera Mon. 8.30
ALBERT 363 3074. Evening 8.00

Royal Opera House

THE ROYAL OPERA
Tonight and December 17, 21 at 7.30
PELLEAS ET MELISANDE

THE ROYAL BALLET
Boxing Day at 2.00 and 7.30
THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

Embassy Suite at St. John's, Smith Square, S.W.1
THURSDAY, 10TH DECEMBER AT 6.30 PM

Broadcasting Saturday

Hilarious Stanley Baxter presents some of the pieces you may have missed before (ITV 8.30). The Brothers Grimm, poet Peter Redgrove and Cole Porter, all have a hand in the mixed bag of 2nd House (BBC 9.10). But take thought in this season for our homeless down and outs (BBC 11.20).—L.B.

BBC 2

9.00 am, Fingerbobs. 9.15, Josie. 9.35, Tom Sawyer. 10.00, Reportage. 10.25, Kontakte. 10.50, The Virginian. 12.00, Tom and Jerry. 12.10 pm, Weather. 12.15, Grandstand. 12.20, Football Focus. 12.45, 1.15, 1.50, 2.20, Racing from Ascot. 12.55, Boxing, British Boatweight Championships. 2.00, Newsnight. Paddy Maguire. 1.35, Rugby League: Top Try Competition. 2.40, 3.30, Rugby League. Wigan v Widnes. 2.55, International Cricket Country from Somerset. 4.05, International Basketball: England Select v American All Stars. 4.45, Final Score. 5.10, Star Trek. 5.25, News. 5.50, Bruce Forsyth and The Generation Game. 6.40, Film: Az Elephant Called Slowly (1970), with Bill McKenna, Virginia Travers. 8.10, Dick Emery, The Sound of Petula. 9.10, Kojak. 10.00, News. 10.10, Match of the Day. 11.20, Parkinson. 11.30, Henry Mancini. 11.45, Dickie Henderson. 12.20, Weather.

London Weekend

9.00 am, Gardening. 9.25, All in a Day's Work. 9.45, Saturday Scene. 9.50, Batman. 10.20, London Bridge. 10.50, Newsnight. 11.05, Tarzan: Tiger, Tiger. 12.00, 4.5, 12.30 pm, World of Sport. 12.35, On the Ball. 1.00, Sports Special, part 1. 1.10, News. 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9.00, 9.10, 9.20, 9.30, 9.40, 9.50, 10.00, 10.10, 10.20, 10.30, 10.40, 10.50, 11.00, 11.10, 11.20, 11.30, 11.40, 11.50, 12.00, 12.10, 12.20, 12.30, 12.40, 12.50, 1.00, 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, 2.00, 2.10, 2.20, 2.30, 2.40, 2.50, 3.00, 3.10, 3.20, 3.30, 3.40, 3.50, 4.00, 4.10, 4.20, 4.30, 4.40, 4.50, 5.00, 5.10, 5.20, 5.30, 5.40, 5.50, 6.00, 6.10, 6.20, 6.30, 6.40, 6.50, 7.00, 7.10, 7.20, 7.30, 7.40, 7.50, 8.00, 8.10, 8.20, 8.30, 8.40, 8.50, 9

SOUTH BANK CONCERT HALLS

Director: John Denton CBE. Tickets: 928 3191. Telephone bookings not accepted on Sundays. Information: 928 3092. For enquiries when postal bookings have already been made: 928 2972. Postal applications must be accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL. NEW PHILHARMONIA. LONDON PHILHARMONIC. LONDON MOZART PLAYERS. ROYAL PHILHARMONIC. GOLDSMITHS CHORAL UNION.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL. LONDON ORPHEUS CHOIR & ORCHESTRA. AMADEUS QUARTET. RICHARD NICKOL ORCHESTRA. BARCLAYS BANK MUSICAL SOCIETY CHORAL SOCIETY. CONTRAPUNCTI. ANTHONY PEEBLES. ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA. CITY OF LONDON CHOIR. FLUTES, REEDS & WHISTLES.

PURCELL ROOM. MARTIN HUGHES. CONSORT OF MUSICK. CONSORT OF MUSICK. CONCERT PLATFORM. ANTHEA GIFFORD. RUTH HECHT. THE PARLOUR QUARTET. PETER LLOYD BAROQUE TRIO. DAVID WARD. TO DRIVE THE COLD WINTER AWAY.

Wigmore Hall. Simon Munting. LENNIE FELIX TRIO. TV ENTERTAINERS. AUBREY STRADAROLI. PETER SERPENTINI. RE HALL. HUGH PETER piano.

hern Sinfonia. N ELIZABETH HALL. Y, 10TH JANUARY AT 7.45. RRE FOURNIER. JOLF SCHWARZ.

ST. JOHN'S, SMITH SQUARE, WESTMINSTER. THE SCHOLARS. TOMORROW at 3 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.

ROYAL ALBERT HALL. THE BACH CHOIR. THE ALEXANDRA CHOIR. CAROLS.

FOR CYPRUS: A SONG. STAVROS KARCHAKOS. VICKI MOSCHOLIOU. NICOS XYLOURIS.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. HARRY RABINOWITZ. JOHNNY MORRIS.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. BERLIOZ: L'ENFANCE DU CHRIST. Conductor: NEVILLE MARRINER.

TCHAIKOVSKY. OVERTURE "1812". 2 MILITARY BANDS.

BEETHOVEN. Overture Egmont. Piano Concerto No. 5 'Emperor'.

VIENNESE NIGHT. Overture, Die Fledermaus. Waltz: Gold & Silver.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL. MESSIAH - HANDEL. Edited by JOHN TOBIN.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL. ANTHONY PEEBLES. makes two debuts this month.

PURCELL ROOM. ANTHEA GIFFORD guitar. Thursday, 19 December at 7.30.

PETER LLOYD BAROQUE TRIO. Sonatas by Handel and Bach. Sunday, 22 December at 7 p.m.

WILLIAM BYRD CHOIR. Conductor: GAVIN TURNER. Consort Brass Ensemble of London.

Royal Opera House. Covent Garden Sunday Concerts. 2 February. 9 March.

John Tydeman: Lear for the ear

BBC radio drama producers tend not to be the most publicity-conscious of men; indeed, were you to ask all but the most addicted of listeners for the names of sound the chances are they'd have difficulty coming up with more than two and they'd probably both be Martin Esslin.



which was the whole point of the original. The case of the BBC traineeship. Though Tydeman didn't spend the whole two-year course in radio: "I was in television for a while, making meaningful films about the Isle of Wight and generally doing whatever they told me to do. I also did some TV drama but then by a happy accident I was assigned to Broadcasting House and I've been here more or less ever since. I must say I've no regrets about television, which is a place of infinite compromise for the director; as Frank Muir once said, radio is a medium but TV is a gadget... and I'd only add to that the fact that the camera is at best a rather cliché-ridden machine. Also, there are far too many people around, whereas in radio you're your own director and your own producer."

good. But there is an awful shortage of fun around at the moment—look at the National or the RSC: no fun at all. I'm sure an audience can feel that, especially at present. The attraction of radio is that not all plays need be the full two hours' traffic; writers like Stoppard, Mercer, even Rattigan are availing themselves of its more flexible timings, and now that tapes can be sold all over Europe the money is no longer so derisory. But does Tydeman ever see himself drifting back towards television? "Not really; it all happened so fast, the development of the medium, that TV has never had a chance to look at itself and ask what it can do best. As a result, all the good TV drama is in fact on film, like Bergman's The Lie or the work of Ken Loach and Tony Garnett. The only British drama ever really established itself in its own right was in Talking to a Stranger. But Tydeman is leaving radio (albeit temporarily) next month when he goes to the Royal Court to direct a play with Anna Calder-Marshall and Rosemary McHale; called Objections to Sex and Violence it will be his first stage production, though he did do a Sunday night production there earlier this year. "It's a play about the making of an anarchist, which I suppose could hardly be more topical, though Caryl Churchill wrote it nearly a year ago. After that, I go back to radio though I suppose if the Court works one should try to do some more stage plays."

Victorian extravaganza Land of the Dinosaurs Theatre Workshop

Irving Wardle. The leader of Ken Hill's matinee expedition up the Amazon is a mild little scientist called Dr Pertwee, and his lost world gets full film coverage including a death duel between a tyrannosaurus rex and a triceratops. Here the concessions to television came; and the production sticks to the usual Theatre Workshop form of conscious anachronism, never budging outside the conventions of Victorian extravaganza, and curiously regarding itself as a bit of a dinosaur. It is a world of villainous fun-fair proprietors and trigger-happy lords, where the neighbourhood bobby tags along with the expedition, and the explorer's family follow him from Gidea Park into the unknown clad in chiffon dresses and anachronistic beachwear. Dinner in the rain forest, of course, is a formal occasion for the men go into dickies and black ties to the accompaniment of an Ambrose-like number ("Always look your very best") from an immaculately suited vocal quartet, turbed by passing pterodactyls. It is a world where going well there is plenty of light; the stage darkens when danger looms. You know just where you are. Larry Dann as the doctor and Geoffrey Freshwater as the beastly baronet lead a capable, quick-changing company. But the quick change of the production lies in its staging, which creates excitement without the smallest reliance on illusion. The party arrive at a chasm and have to swing across on a rope; one is terrified and gets stranded in the middle. It all happens on a bare stage, a simple drawing, but that only heightens the suspense. Paddling down the Amazon they are pursued by Indians. Enter one Indian briskly marking time with a raised spear while the projected squiggles speed up, indicating landscapes flashing past. The war is full of quick tricks, and they work beautifully. Ian Armit, impressively slumped over his upright, assists every turn of the narrative with the hair-trigger timing of a silent-film virtuoso, and occasional drum-rolls to mark falling rocks. Under its ramshackle appearance, the play is a very skilful piece of work and it had yesterday's audience roaring.

Not that it has all been the classics for Tydeman: "I did spend months on Mrs Dalloway where there are those tremendous descriptive passages. Mind you, you just can't hear King Lear—you actually have to listen to it, and that again is one of the marvels of radio... it rules out passivity". Sheridan Morley

Royal Ballet Covent Garden

John Percival. Three ballets by Frederick Ashton at Covent Garden on Thursday demonstrated the old master's range. I suppose one could argue that Emma's Variations is the most skilful of them, because of the way he has concealed the unsuitability of the score and subject that were wished upon him. Julia Trevelyan Oman's distractingly elaborate setting and costumes, too, dictate a realism not conducive to ballet. Where the lines of the white trio aspire constantly upwards, the other two built on horizontal lines. Georgina Parkinson has been in it from the first; Michael Coleman and Laura Connor match her in musical exactness of phrasing and crisp movement. Ashton's own simple costumes (green for the Crossinnes) suit the work beautifully. Daphnis and Chloë is on a more heroic scale. This time the plot is coherent and apt for dancing. The solos are some of the most expressive Ashton ever made, and the last festive dance for a large company is one of the most exhilarating finales ever written. Anthony Dowell (a busy night for him) makes an ideal Daphnis, handsomely eloquent. Antoinette Sibley struggles with touching sincerity to fill the role of Chloë in which Fonteyn has so far proved even more than usually irreplaceable. How pleasant, too, to see the corps cast mainly from the younger dancers.

Rising Damp Yorkshire

Leonard Buckley. Well, there was certainly a seeping wetness about this programme last night. But what else can one say about this situation comedy now squeezed out into a series? Those who saw on stage The Banana Box of Eric Chappell, from which it is developed, or who watched the television try-out earlier in the year, will know the situation. Rigby, a seedy landlord, all wind and prejudice, does on his lady tenant. He has two others as well, both male and both young, and they are whom the lady dotes. The interplay of the four makes the fun. A comparison is obvious and inevitable. Rigby is a fourth division Alf Garnett. That is mainly Leonard Rossiter's doing. He has the part. This, however, is not an actor who distinguishes himself as Warren Mitchell does, between a serious character and comedy. Save for the words that

NPO/Masur Festival Hall/Radio 3

Stephen Walsh. For the second time this week the Festival Hall played back on Thursday to a late concert by Bartók. This time Yehudi Menuhin appeared as soloist in the Violin Concerto No. 2, a work with which he has for years enjoyed a rather special association. The intense concentration has always struck me as particularly fine, ever since I first got to know it well from the earlier of his two recordings. In fact his mental and musical grasp of the piece is clearly as great as that of the National Philharmonia, with ragged strings and a weakness of pulse whose source was not easy to trace. And Dvorák's New World symphony, though technically well played, was made to sound quite perfunctory as though its presence in so serious a concert was an act of grace, not justified by its intrinsic merits.

The Fairy Queen at London Opera Centre

Sir Anthony Lewis is to conduct four performances of Purcell's The Fairy Queen to be sung by students of the London Opera Centre at the Centre's auditorium in Commercial Road, Stepney, on December 18, 19, 20 and 21. Sir Anthony, who is principal of the Royal Academy of Music, conducts his own version of Purcell's work which has been recorded but not had a London production until now. The Fairy Queen was last given in London in 1946 when it was chosen to open Covent Garden after the war. A distinguished cast included Margaret Rawlings as Titania and Robert Helpmann as Oberon, with the dancing talents of Margot Fonteyn, Beryl Grey, Violetta Elvin, Michael Somes, John Field, Leslie Edwards and Alexander Grant. Singers and actors included Charles Calverley, Olive Dyer, Bruce Dargatzis, Harcourt Williams and Michael Horden. Constant Lambert conducted. The original version in five acts must have lasted for many hours and the present version by Sir Anthony is considerably curtailed with a view to presenting Purcell at his best while sacrificing a lot of seventeenth-century doggerel. Nearly 30 students of the Centre will have singing parts. The dances will be performed by the Baker Ramart School. William Chappell will produce the work, and he has also designed the costumes and arranged the dances. David Myerscough Jones has designed the sets. Sir Anthony will conduct the Academy of the BBC and the Europa Singers.



Michael Coleman, Laura Connor and Georgina Parkinson.

Travel

A sumptuous escape route

Some time ago Mr Michael J. Goodkin took the trouble to study the villa renting scene, paying particular attention to the type of accommodation available to those who take such holidays abroad. It was a purely personal investigation, for he is professionally involved in real estate and financial affairs. What he saw, however, convinced him that a want needed to be filled.

He has now filled it with the unashamedly luxurious "Jamaican Alternative"—a collection of properties on that island now being offered to those who are financially able to indulge their sybaritism. Mr Goodkin believes that not enough of the best was available.

His brochure glossily portrays Windrush and Mount Ego, Pimento Hill, Hanover House and other properties. It conjures up the right spirit, creates the correct aura of affluence. If you have the funds this is one alternative to winter's gloom and the depression of Europe.

The lowest price I could find for a holiday between now and the middle of April was £325 per person. That covers your return air fare and two weeks in one of the large villas (five or more bedrooms), but you have to travel as one of a group of 11 or 12 to qualify.

The cost rises to £395 for each of four persons staying in one of the independent villas featured in the brochure. As well as the return air fare and accommodation, it includes the cost of staff salaries, for the properties have their regular corps of retainers. It does not cover car rental (five-seater automatics at £62 per week) which is essential, nor the cost of food or gratuities.

A mouth-watering sentence from the description of Windrush. "In keeping with these sumptuous high standards, dine to soft music from either radio or cassette recorder in the indoor dining room (seating 8), enjoy cocktails in the walk-in bar (with running water and all bar accessories, including automatic icemaker), or simply relax on the large covered patio (accessible from the house via an entire wall of floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors), with its lovely lounge furniture, second dining table, plus a picture-postcard view of the sea, freshwater, filtered swimming pool, gardens and golf course."

The Jamaica Association of Villas and Apartments, is at 6-10 Bruton Street, London W1X 8BN, who will supply the details—and give you something to dream about. Another company offering Jamaican properties for holiday rent is Meon Travel, whose current brochure has details of five villa developments and prices for mid-April to mid-October—the less-expensive summer season.

A comparison between the two companies would be pointless because the properties vary and the holidays are aimed at different types of traveller. However, the cost of a two week holiday for each of four people ranges from £251 to £287 in the Meon brochure. That includes the return flight, car hire with unlimited mileage, maid service, airport taxes and an initial supply of food. Automatic cars are an extra £8 per week.

Mrs Jean Smith, who is in charge of the Meon tours department, told me that this was the first time the company had offered villa holidays to Jamaica. The innovation was made because it is now possible for Meon to offer villa deals linked to scheduled flights and not have the headaches of chartering aircraft.

Among the Meon apartments are some located at Sans Souci, a property I visited two years ago and about which I enthused on this very page. The air-conditioned apartments have been built around the terraces of a tropical rock garden at the sea's edge. It has two swimming pools with lifts to carry one down to the pool, terraces and the sea.



Tryall Golf and Beach Club: Exclusive £100,000 villas on 3,000 acres offering swimming, golf and tennis.

When we landed at Faro airport it was raining. Not the gentle Irish patter (that doesn't make you wet, they claim) or the steady, grey drizzle associated with the start of a holiday in Britain. This was ferocious stuff, like silver dragons, bouncing and flying up off the tarmac to soak you to the thighs even under a raincoat.

We had flown more than 1,000 miles to get away from this kind of weather. We were promised sunshine. "Might as well have stayed at home", grumbled one of the passengers. We paid for the customs shed and the rain drummed rhythmically on the roof like something from one of those early American "B" pictures set in the steamier parts of tropical Africa. I expected any moment to see a uniformed Sidney Greenstreet appear as a customs officer. Instead we got a rather nice dark little man, wearing white cotton gloves, who promptly confiscated, rightly, six bottles of whisky brought in by a greedy group of tourists, British, I fear.

But we need not have bothered about the rain. In 20 minutes the pools on the runway were steaming gently and inside the hour it had turned into a beautiful evening. The air was champagne-like and there was a crispness about everything that made Britain and its problems seem further away than the 1,000 miles we had travelled.

There were about 150 golfers on this trip. All down to play in the Algarve Agency first ever pro/am tournament over the Vale do Lobo course on the Portuguese Algarve. Everywhere you looked there were large, bronzed men heaving bulky bags of clubs around. The professionals, of course, knew each other: the amateurs only their immediate team mates.

For years I had been an unashamed golfing buff: no course in Britain was too far to travel, no place too obscure for me to try. But not any more. I had discovered golf abroad and nothing else would do. Golf in the sun had bitten deeply and, surprisingly, it was still fairly cheap. Playing the game in ideal conditions abroad was, until recently, the prerogative of the reasonably well-off. In fact it is now too easy to arrange such a trip. The main thing is to book early and thus avoid disappointment, though you are spoilt for choice of where to go.

Of course you can take yourself off to the airport, book your flight, take a taxi and sign in at the hotel nearest the course of your choice. The better way is to study the back page of *The Times* or leaf through *Golf World* and make the choice suiting both time and pocket.

Golf in the sun

My ten-day trip, costing £125, included all the above plus entrance fees to the tournament and sufficient food to take me through the first 36 hours. There is not much to do at sundown, though you will need the rest after 36 holes of Vale do Lobo. But there is the local discothèque, noisy and exhilarating. It is cheaper to drink gin and tonic than orange juice. One ruins your game—the other your pocket.

By next February, unfortunately, the prices will have risen but it is still a good buy and all relevant information can be obtained from Jim Long, the recently appointed director of golf at the Algarve Agency, which is running two pro-ams in January and February.

If you want a change of scene there are courses nearby. Penina is a stiff test of anyone's game and Villamoura is only a long iron from Vale do Lobo. There is also tennis, sailing and horse riding when the golf becomes too trying.

More courses are being built, perhaps the most exclusive at Quinta do Lago, about three miles west of Faro in a heavily wooded part of the province. Set in 1,605 acres on an estate, it is the joy of a Brazilian developer who has attracted some well-known names in their respective fields. Flor van Donck, the Belgian professional, will manage the golf; Colonel Harry Llewellyn will supervise the riding school and a famous French manager will run the club, hotels and restaurants: one of them the five-star Casa Velha is already open and very cool.

There is any number of places to visit for golfing holidays and the number of operators offering facilities, and vying with one another with extras, is now legion. But perhaps the most surprising advent of all is the golf cruise.

Last year the P & O line discovered a new untapped seam in the holiday mine. Its first cruise on the Oriana was in the nature of an experiment. But so well received was it that they decided to run two more this year. We sailed on the second which left Southampton on a fine evening last September. One drawback for the golfers was that there would be no real golf until we docked at Barcelona five days later: though there was ample room to practise under the expert eye of Ken Adwick, the associate professional at Woodlands Manor GC in Kent.

John Carter

John Carter

John Carter

John Carter

John Carter

John Carter

THE HOLY LAND. More than a holiday—unique experience. A visit to the Holy Land with Orientalism promises a richly rewarding holiday. Here you may relive in imagination those scenes of holy age which still mean so much to us today.

ORIENTOURS. 17 years' experience of organising Holy Land tours since your comfort and enjoyment.

SWANS ART TREASURES TOURS. Each Tour is accompanied by an expert Guest Lecturer whose specialised knowledge of the countries visited will bring to the mind the spirit, culture and historic past.

PROPERTY ABOARD. LAKE CARAHG IRELAND. To let: furnished private house and 6 acres of mature grounds on shores of Carahg Lake.

PROPERTY ABOARD. SOUTH AFRICA. CAPE TOWN. Settle for the world's finest home, 3-4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, 3-4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, fully fitted kitchen, 3 recreational, hot cottage, Salmon fishing, shooting, etc. Five-year lease.

PROPERTY ABOARD. SHEFFIELD. Available in January, 3 bed, large luxury flat in old mansion house in best part of Sheffield.

PROPERTY ABOARD. OF Interest to International Organisations. TO LET. Shorth 2-bedroom detached house. Furn. or unfurn. Pleasant S. Beds. village, 10 min. W1. Estate 50 mts. Views over 4500 ft. The Times.

THE TIMES DIRECTORY OF ESTATE AGENTS. BROWLEY, BECKENHAM, Christie, Hest, Huts Wood and Upton. HASTY, DAVINE & LEPPER, Chartered Surveyors, 11 East St., Bromley, SE16 2JH.

Fly TAP to the Algarve for under £4 a day. Take a break this winter in Portugal's sunny south. 14 days in the Algarve from only £50 for a villa holiday, or with hotel accommodation £82 for 7 days. 7 day golf holidays start at £53. Phone or write for brochures to: TAP Portuguese Airways, 21 Portland Place, London W1N 4HQ. Tel: 01-637 3633.

Gardening

A gardener's Christmas time

ely, over the years, I have gathered together a fairly good collection of spanners. Different shapes and other tools. We have tried to do as much of our maintenance as we can...

While I am the last person to encourage anybody unqualified to dabble with electrical matters, it is useful to have one of those screwdriver-cum-current testers. It has a tiny element in the handle which glows when the tip of the blade is placed against a live wire or electrical socket.

excellent. It consists of two aluminium handles and at the end of each is a slightly concave blade. The result is a kind of giant sugar tong, and it is surprising how easy it is to lift rubbish with this tool.

Most of us have got into the habit of keeping a card of fuse wire handy, but nowadays with modern ring mains and fused plugs it is necessary to keep a stock of 2, 5 or 13 amp cartridge type fuses.

One of the most useful items which the family could be asked for include one or two plastic garden labels and waterproof ink felt pens. The ink used in ordinary ball point pens is not waterproof. Even better, I am sure, is a good supply of tape.

Many people tend to fight shy of new techniques, and it might do a gardening friend a good turn to give him a selection of potted plants for Christmas. Once he has used them and discovered their advantages he will, I am sure, be very grateful.

varieties they prepare in this way. The seeds are coated with a soluble inert material so that their size is increased up to 90-fold. This makes even such small seed as petunia easy to sow.



Roy Hay

Saturday Bazaar

For the person who appreciates there are Backgammon sets and Backgammon sets. Solid Mahogany case, hand polished to a rich deep lustre.

Drink Entertaining drinks for the season of goodwill. A choice of something new or out of the ordinary for pre or postprandial drinking is well worth having during the season.

Drink Entertaining drinks for the season of goodwill. Lura (£3.55, O. W. Losh, 15 Jersey St. SW11). The Honey Brandy is made by a firm famous for their traditional British cordials from clover honey and French brandy.

Gardening Payless grow more. Dobies 1975 Seed Catalogue offers even more variety colour and value. A fine range of flower seeds, vegetable seeds and a wide selection of bulbs, tubers, gardenia equipment and leisure items.

Build your own Reproduction Mantel Clock. The ideal Christmas gift for those with a sense of the unusual. 30-hour mechanism. Elegant wooden case can be stained to individual requirements.

DIAMOND JEWELLERY. Highest CASE PRICES for your Antique and Modern Jewellery. Gold, Silver, Platinum, Brass, Steel, Costume, etc.

Curiosity. Drinks that might well be offered at any time include Lamb & Watt's Honey Brandy (£2.40, Amazonian French by The Brighton Road, SW7) and Jean Bourly's 1967 Macvint from the

Celebrating. For those who can afford everything, there is Remy Martin Cognac, celebrating their 250th anniversary, of which only 2,000 bottles have been allocated to the United Kingdom.

Shops and Stores. HEALEY & STONE. Inflation beaters! FROM £40-£2400. Afghan, Bohemian, Jordan, Turkish, Chinese and Russian rugs, all 20" x 30" to 20' x 30'.

Give personal glass. Names, dates, initials, crests precisely engraved on highest quality crystal glass to your personal order. Illustrated leaflet from: DENT GLASS.

Spink want to buy medals. KING ST., ST. JAMES'S, LONDON, S.W.1. Tel.: 01-930 7888 (24 hours).

For the Epicure. SHIPPED DIRECT AND AT IT TASTES IN FRANCE. 1975 Beaujolais Villages £11.50. 1975 Julien-Amour £17.50. 1975 Fleurie £18.80.

Stamps and Coins. CHURCHILL. Churchill Centenary postage stamps Grenada issue. Cause and effect booklet on request.

Secretarial and General Appointments. STATISTICAL ASSISTANT. Our client, a major nationalized industry seeks two Assistant Statisticians.

Need your help in the kitchen? Omega Bolex secondhand watch. Excellent. Part each. Your old watch replaced by a new one.

Picture Restoration. James Rogers & Sons Ltd. Clean, restore and varnish all oil paintings. Fine-quality frames for painting.

Tinderbox. HAPPY DAYS. London's Exclusive Mirror Gallery. We specialise in custom made mirrors in a wide variety of shapes.

Fashion and Beauty. VALERIE GOAD'S ladies are all sewing courses this weekend to get lots more beautiful dresses finished for you for Christmas.

Attractive Young Lady. Chauffeur required with pleasant personality, aged between 20 and 35, single, university graduate.

Letter of collection of 4000. Omega Bolex secondhand watch. Excellent. Part each. Your old watch replaced by a new one.

Picture Restoration. James Rogers & Sons Ltd. Clean, restore and varnish all oil paintings. Fine-quality frames for painting.

Tinderbox. HAPPY DAYS. London's Exclusive Mirror Gallery. We specialise in custom made mirrors in a wide variety of shapes.

Gardening. Suttons Seed Guide. Now! Dazzling Californian petunias. New! Round French carrot.

Tele-sales Girls. Tell the customers from E.C.2 office, of this exciting new product, which you can sell for £1.00.

For the Epicure. Estate Bottled QUINTA DO AVELAR PORTUGUESE WINE. Specially selected by Finch's. EXCLUSIVE DIRECT IMPORT.

Spink want to buy jewellery. KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S, LONDON, SW.1. Tel.: 01-930 7888 (24 hours).

Art and Antique. INTERIOR DESIGN AND DECORATION. Cottage to Castle. Single room to Sultan's Palace.

Gardening. PIDDLETRETHIDE 375. Orchids. Flowering size CATTLEYS £25. All CARRIAGE PAID. Please write for lists.

Personality Girl! £2,000 plus BONUS. Arranging visitors' accommodation, allocating cars, generally assisting on social side of the excellent City company.

ASSO OIL. Motor oil. 5 litres. 10 litres. 20 litres. 40 litres. 80 litres. 160 litres.

Spink want to buy jewellery. KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S, LONDON, SW.1. Tel.: 01-930 7888 (24 hours).

Art and Antique. INTERIOR DESIGN AND DECORATION. Cottage to Castle. Single room to Sultan's Palace.

Gardening. PIDDLETRETHIDE 375. Orchids. Flowering size CATTLEYS £25. All CARRIAGE PAID. Please write for lists.

Personality Girl! £2,000 plus BONUS. Arranging visitors' accommodation, allocating cars, generally assisting on social side of the excellent City company.

George Hutchinson

Where have all our inspiring leaders gone?

Two days ago, I was speaking to a wise, mature and important businessman from abroad, who is a frequent visitor to London...

There is no need for it, he says. Things are not as bad as a lot of people are making out. Britain is not going to be ruined unless you think and talk yourselves into ruin...

The two months since the election in politics, it rather looks as if he may succeed—not because everyone wants him but for lack of a truly commanding rival.

Why the law must adapt to meet the needs of a changed society

Cassandra's punishment was to be disbelieved when she correctly prophesied the gloomy future of her society. Lord Justice Scarman has taken the risk of assuming that mantle...

enough to call for piecemeal reform of particular laws or fields of the law. What Sir Leslie is asking is far more difficult. He asks of judges, the legal profession and the law teachers that they change their way of thinking...

national obligations in that field, but she has now assumed them, and yet the system has not developed to encompass these obligations.

distributive justice, and there to make provision for society as a whole, and for those not strong enough to provide for themselves.

does not adapt and adjust, it will be rejected. Sir Leslie's argument is that influence of law and the rule of law will decline, the administrative authorities will become dominant...

Marcel Ber Legal Correspondent



Mr James Collins during his playing career, and today—a 60-year "record of allegiance".

Sportsview

A 40-year record that could go under the Hammers this season

West Ham begin their match with Manchester City today placed fifth in the Football League table. If they complete the season without losing ground Mr James Collins will go to bed happy, from cheering—and wake up next day a curiously saddened man.

James—Jim—Collins has a record of allegiance to West Ham that stretches back over 60 years. As an errand boy for his father's butcher's shop he used to deliver meat to his earliest heroes—muttering a shy "good luck today" as he handed over the joint.

He began watching West Ham, he says, after peeling through the East London streets muddy and bruised from his own football in the park, to reach the ground just as the gates were opened 10 minutes from the final whistle to let the crowds out.

The reserve trainer told me "If I hear you're been hanging on to the ball young Jim, I'll skin you alive when you get back."

Wildlife sanctuary in a village churchyard

Twelve years ago when old Bert used to keep the country churchyard neat enough by scything the grass down three or four times a year during the summer, there were plenty of slow-worms, or "legless lizards" living there.

many-petalled varieties lady's-smock, and lesser o-dines, for example, and of rock-roses, meadow frage, dam's violet, meadow cornflower and chamomile. There are fewer of them every year...

Advertisement for Humidifiers, featuring 'Free Advice' and 'Humidifier Advisory Service' with contact information for Harrods and John Lewis.

Seamen say farewell to their shore berth

The home from home for sailors stranded in the Port of London is closing its hospitable doors. For a century and a half the Sailors' Home and Red Ensign Club in Dock Street, E1, has been a haven between voyages for seamen; for some of them the only home in England, or even on dry land, that they had.

Automation and increased wages have reduced the numbers employed in the British merchant fleet from about 150,000 before the seamen's strike of 1967 to less than half that number.

The Secretary of the Home, Wing Commander Bill Fleming, known to his sailor-guests as "Wings", can remember days only a decade ago when a seaman would stay for a fortnight and spend £400 on booze, the local betting-shops, and the dingy local rooms that supplied seamen with other traditional sailors' comforts after a long voyage.

which was opened by the Prince of Wales, had accommodated for 500 in its heyday in the great days of sail. Today it has accommodation for 200, and is never more than half full.

Philip Howard





New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

E FREEDOM OF DEBATE

is nothing *The Times* view with more distress *cern than a conflict* this newspaper and the community, either the Jewish community, or the community. We have a bination for the Jewish tion to British life and a fect for it as well. We nsistently supported the existence of the state of and have admired the nents of that nation, fealing any more need to from criticizing Israel's han to refrain from cri- the policy of France, nation for whom we feel regard.

theless the action of the of Deputies of British reporting to the Attorney the advertisement which Zionism fund raising m to us to be seriously ed. The only allegation that the advertisement have the unqualified l of those who seek to seeds of racial hatred" not even a direct allega- at racial hatred, if it had it would not have been 1.

advertisement attacked fund raising; it attacked military policies, includ- policy of reprisals; it that British funds would er spent at home. The does not endorse these as indeed we do not the views of any political er; in this case we do not ree with them. We accept re are counter arguments can be brought, and we ened our letters column arguments.

what we do not accept is should be impossible for who hold the pro- jian view—which is not sion—to put forward t in favour of their case, that it might "sow the of prejudice. To attack fund raising, or to attack is not the same thing as ig Jews. Some pro-Arabs

in this country no doubt are anti-semitic, and anti-semitism is both an insidious and dangerous disease, but many pro-Arabs are not anti-semitic. They believe that the balance the greater injustice is the one the Palestinians have suffered, and they work to put that right.

Again, that is not our view. We would accept the ultimate strength of the analysis that Israel suffers the threat of destruction, and not the Arab states, and that Israel is bound to remain in a strong position of defence until there is evidence that a real peace can be made. We certainly also consider that peace is Israel's great ultimate interest, and that Israel's policy, particularly between the last two Middle Eastern wars, did not always take the right means to that end.

The Board of Deputies recently lent their authority to a two-page advertisement in *The Times* attacking the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. We sympathized with that advertisement and have indeed consistently supported the campaign for freedom of Jewish immigration. It is argued that the anti-Soviet advertisement, which was severe in its allegations, was a political advertisement, but that the anti-Zionist one was a racial advertisement. We cannot see that the distinction is just. Zionist fund raising, though its purposes are charitable, does strengthen Israel generally and is intended to do so by those who solicit funds and by those who give them. An attack on Zionist fund raising seems therefore to have a clear political objective.

It has also been argued that it is one thing to publish an attack on a foreign government, and another to attack a British group, in this case the British Zionists. That does not seem to us a conclusive difference; political debate, both in our editorial and advertising columns, covers both domestic and international controversies.

Of course it is true that any political attack can have the secondary effect of creating prejudice, can in that sense "sow the seeds" of prejudice. No doubt that is a danger in all

attacks on Zionism, just as pre- justice against communism may follow from any attacks on the Soviet Union. Yet freedom of speech is prejudiced itself if strong ex-parte political statements are not allowed.

We have a rule that we never resent the resentment of either the Arabs or the Jews. *The Times* has a duty, which is difficult enough, to try to take a balanced view of the conflict in the Middle East; we also have a duty to allow freedom of speech to advertisers on both sides of the dispute, whether we agree with them or not. We do not always succeed either in being fair to the Jewish or the Arab case. We recognize the strength of feeling on both sides and sympathize rather than otherwise with the interrupting resentment which our own conduct sometimes provokes. How could people feel otherwise, when the history has been such, and such issues are at stake?

We also recognize that Zionism is both a political and national movement, and that attacks on Zionism which are argued on political grounds will nevertheless seem to many Jews to be attacks on the Jewish nation as such. There is perhaps no way out of this difficulty. Zionism is not only a political force, it is a very important one. Yet unlike communism or Western liberalism it is a political force identified with a particular nationality, and with that nationality alone.

Yet in this case we do believe that the Board of Deputies are making a mistake. By trying to have the advertisement prosecuted, they appear to be trying to deny their opponents the right to state their case. What is more they have already had some success; *The Times* has refused a further insertion of the same advertisement because we judge that to do so, in the light of the protests, would be provocative, would have the prejudicial effect of raising an already emotional issue to a more dangerous level. We do not think that it is wise of the Board of Deputies to seek to deny to others a freedom of speech which they have themselves so recently exercised.

THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE CHILD

vid Owen's Children Bill, was published yesterday, incarnation of his private er's measure of last Feb- which was denied its reading when Mr Heath ed on the previous day was going to the country. r Owen is a junior health r and launching it again government Bill, with the scope and intentions, but ed by the parliamentary n and with benefit of ve official consultations ; the bodies concerned, s all to the good. Adoption, ng and custody were ; much too complex matters dealt with by a private er's Bill, and last Feb- s measure was already ened with damaging com- ses if it was to have a e of becoming law.

has been widely agreed for years that the law on ion is unsatisfactory. A er of highly publicized and ssing cases recently has ased the need for reform e lines proposed by the hton committee in 1972. i a child is living with foster ers who wish to adopt it, the ng law tends to pay too regard to the interests of atural parents, and too little use of the child. Of course it ie that in the great majority ses a child is most likely to the love and security that it needs in its own family.

remains so when domestic lems mean that the child has e fostered or taken into a authority home even for s long periods. But there s a time, which depends on the age of the child and e efforts the natural parents made to keep up the rela- ship, when the bond with the r parents becomes the more ortant one.

At present the law generally gives the natural parents a veto on adoption right up to the moment the process is completed. A couple planning to adopt has to live with the child and establish a relationship knowing that at any moment their hopes may be capriciously taken away by a parent whom the child may hardly remember. Only if a court judges that the parents are unreasonable in refusing consent, or if they have persistently ill-treated the child, can an adoption go ahead without their agreement.

It is right that natural parents should have very substantial and longstanding rights over their own children—apart from anything else, if they have reason to fear that it will be difficult to get them back once they have been taken into care, they may resist parting with them even temporarily when it is in everyone's interest that they should. But in the last resort it is the child whose fate is most involved, and the child's own interest should prevail.

The new Bill, like the Houghton report, falls short of spelling this out. It provides that a court or adoption agency "shall take full account of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of the child throughout his childhood", and that the child's own wishes should be taken into account as far as possible, but it does not declare in terms that this factor should be the paramount one. It might be better if it did, though the difference is not a crucial one. The reform has been in the air for so long that there has been a partial reversal of sym- pathies among social workers in favour of the natural parents. In purely material terms, many parents (already in difficulties or they would not have needed to part with their child) will never

be able to provide it with the same benefits as the foster parents, whatever they may have to offer in the way of love and established intimacy. But there is no need to suppose that the courts would assess a child's welfare in purely material terms. Certainly they should not do so.

In balancing the interests of natural and would-be adoptive parents, the Bill greatly improves the existing arrangements. It is important that the parents, as well as the child, should usually have representation with legal aid in contested cases. To a great extent (it would be impossible to do so entirely) the danger is of making too much depend on the calendar, and so encouraging parents to reclaim their children after three years or five to avoid some drastic diminution of their rights. The proposal enabling parents to free their children for adoption in advance will, it is hoped, spare children and foster parents much uncertainty, though it is likely that a deep-rooted and natural reluctance to sign one's child away irrevocably will make it less often used than it might be.

The decision to forbid informal third party adoptions accords with most informed opinion. With the extra responsibilities that will fall on adoption societies as parental holds are diminished, it is right that central registration should be introduced in England and Wales. An extra burden will also fall on local authority social service departments. Councils are to be given the responsibility of ensuring that adoption facilities in their areas are adequate. At a time when so many admonitions about extravagance fall on local authorities from above it is of the utmost importance that central government should make full allowance for the extra staff and spending that these responsibilities will require.

Other European capitals have found it essential to have such ring roads. Motorists who have visited the continent will know the ring road round Rome and the "periphérique" round Paris, though the latter is perhaps a little too near the city centre for comfort.

In the case of London, an outer ring road is even more urgent as there is as yet no motorway system connecting the Channel ports with the Midlands and North which by-passes London. If the north east section of the road has to go through or near beauty spots like Epping Forest, efforts must obviously be made to keep environmental damage to the minimum but this is no reason for scrapping the whole project.

One cannot in the same breath demand that juggernauts be kept out of our towns and villages and argue against the construction of roads which will do just that. It is time the government gave a clear expression of intent to carry the outer ring road project through with a target date for completion.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. R. EBSWORTH,
2 Warboys Road,
Kingston Hill,
Surrey.
December 4.

marriage of divorcees

in the Dean of Norwich

Your Religious Affairs Correspondent has drawn attention to the fact that a number of Church of England clergy are quietly exercising their independence by allowing their parishes to accept a minister to be married in church after suitable inquiries (see page 10, December 9).

She is another approach which evokes attention. Christian people believe that it is right that they should be remarried in church and that they should be given the opportunity to seek help from Free Church ministers. About half the 1,150 people, Anglican, Methodist and others, who were remarried by the Methodist Church in one particular area were Anglicans, and of these at least one-third had been remarried to the Methodist Church by their own vicar. In some cases the vicar also asked if he might be asked to take part in the ceremony. In the course of a careful inquiry I did not get any impression of easy-going permissiveness on the part of the Methodist Church; rather a serious attempt to provide a service to those who are deeply concerned to have a Christian wedding and have a genuine desire to make a fresh start

and to summon the aid of a power not in themselves.

There is good reason to believe that there is growing tolerance within the Church of England to the different approaches to this problem which are, in practice, being adopted within the parishes. When the clergy have more experience of these different approaches, it will be possible for the General Synod, with the agreement of the bishops and good will of the majority of the members of the church, to maintain the principle of life-long marriage and to act with compassion in individual cases.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN WEBSTER,
The Deanery,
Norwich.
December 9.

London's orbital road

From Mr G. A. R. Ebsworth

Sir, In a period when many big ventures for the future are being scrapped—first Maplin, next perhaps, the Channel Tunnel—projects which are clearly essential should not be obstructed or delayed. One of these, I suggest, is the outer ring road round London, that is the north and south orbital roads.

Britain and Israel: freedom of the advertiser

From the Director of the Anglo-Israel Association

Sir, That the publication of a certain advertisement in your paper on December 11 would provoke a flurry was clearly foreseen by you according to your leader of today (December 12), "The Freedom of the Advertiser". You yourself hinted in this at the probable mentality of the statements in the advertisement. Others will doubtless deal with this aspect and whether the advertisement was or was not a subtle incitement to anti-semitism.

What seems to me dangerous in the advertisement is that the casual reader may be misled into thinking that by "British" money channelled to "Zionist" Israel, HMG (ie, the taxpayers' money) is in some way involved. In this aspect I feel that I, as an ex-member of Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service, can offer authoritative and reassuring information. While assistant and later head of the Foreign Office Department dealing with Israel and the Arab countries around her I was engaged in the 1950s in channelling large sums of aid to the Arab countries—£12 million a year to the Arab Legion, £3 million a year to Jordan for economic development and so on. My technical assistance programmes channelled through our Middle East Development Division were almost exclusively directed to the Arab countries. Even Nuri's oil-rich Iraq benefited handsomely in various ways. HMG's contribution to UNRWA for the Arab refugees has run into millions of pounds since 1949 and continues. All the above represented the British taxpayers' money.

Against this our economic and technical assistance to Israel was on a tiny, if efficient, scale and not one penny of our technical assistance money went to support the 750,000 Jews who had been driven out of Arab lands and stripped of all their possessions.

So, the casual reader can rest assured—his money has not been sent to Israel but to her needy neighbours.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL HADOW, Director,
The Anglo-Israel Association,
9 Bentinck Street, W1.
December 12.

From Mr L. Gordon

Sir, Your leading article today, "Freedom of the advertiser", tried very hard to be fair and objective, and almost succeeded. It refers rightly to "freedom of political expression in advertising... freedom under law... offence is not in itself a reason for refusing...". It also refers, rightly, to "careful consideration of allegations of fact that they contain..." (my italics).

Granted that the advertisement as a whole was accepted by *The Times* under the proper policy of "freedom of political expression in advertising" surely the line "indiscriminate bombing of Palestinian refugees" should not have been allowed. That line was not "political expression" in any proper sense, and was nothing else than wrong and untrue "allegation of fact"—and knowingly so. It is a fact and nothing to do with opinion: the Israel Government is guilty of indiscriminate or any other bombing of refugees as such. You, Sir, are aware—indeed it has often been reported in *The Times* and other leading newspapers—that when Israel has bombed or otherwise attacked Lebanon the targets were never refugee camps as such, but Al Fatah or other terrorist bases or training camps. If these groups, with full knowledge of their government, choose to have these places in or near refugee camps (for reasons of self-protection) it is surely their own fault and responsibility. When Germany in the last war had munition factories in civilian areas it was their own responsibility.

It would be just as factually wrong for *The Times* or any other newspaper to accept an advertisement, eg

accusing Britain of "indiscriminate" shooting of people in Ulster, or of Germany during the last war. There can be little doubt that *The Times* would, rightly, not accept such an advertisement at least such part of it—they would reject it as wrong and untrue "allegation of fact".

There can also be little doubt that all or the large majority of people who protested about the advertisement which you published on December 11 did so, not because they objected to "political expression", nor even because it gave "offence", but for the objective and more cogent reason that it contained unfair and patently and blatantly untrue "allegation of fact".

Your leading article today also contains no reference to the sheer hypocrisy of the advertisers: behind their cloak of putting Britain first lies their guilt of supporting and defending Arab terrorist organizations who indeed have been responsible, on their own admission, for worse than indiscriminate bombing—namely, the deliberate massacre of women and schoolchildren. Not even the terrorist organizations themselves, nor their best friends or supporters, have ever suggested that there was any element of military or alleged terrorist targets. Indeed in many instances some of the victims have been non-Jews and non-Israelis.

What an extraordinary case of the pot calling the kettle black. In other words, the advertisement used "freedom of political expression" as a cloak for licence to disregard truth and fact. That was not surprising. The surprise is that *The Times* accepted it—pot, stock and barrel.

Yours truly,
L. GORDON,
London, SW1.
December 12.

Consistent policy for industry

From Sir Joseph Lockwood

Sir, I have read Anthony Wigram's article on electoral reform (December 6) and would wholly agree with the central point made in the article, that constant changes in government policy for party political motives have greatly damaged the confidence and growth of investment in British industry in the last decade.

I think these changes have also had a damaging effect on the morale of management and contributed significantly to the present "couldn't care less attitude that I have seen develop during my working life."

The increasing complexity of modern technology has greatly lengthened the development and testing period of new products and it is absolutely essential that management should be able to plan ahead and make the best estimates they can of the market situation by the time the product is ready to be offered to the public. Cost is, of course, a minor matter in this situation and unnecessary variation in taxation levels, investment development grants and stop-go and other measures make such forecasting impossible.

Such institutions such as the Industrial Reorganization Corporation need a running-in period of a few years before they become an effective and useful addition to the industrial scene. This change was abolished by a corporation of government just at the time when it could have been most useful.

It seems to me that our system of adversarial politics described by Anthony Wigram as "alternating single party government" is a formidable obstacle to the working out of reasonable consensus and the long term policies on which the confidence of industry depends. Like other modern democracies, we must work out our attitude as a nation to fundamental issues like nationalization, industrial relations and taxation to maintain some stability and consistency of policy in these essential spheres. Only then will we be able to settle down to a decent job of work and begin to pay our way in the world.

I am convinced therefore that our system of government should be altered to prevent or slow down rapid change either by providing a second chamber with real power or by a single chamber government elected by proportional representation.

Yours faithfully,
JOSEPH LOCKWOOD,
Flat 18,
33 Grosvenor Square W1.
December 11.

Cathedral appeals

From Mr W. J. Carpenter Turner

Sir, Yet another appeal is launched for repairs to the fabric of a great cathedral and there can be no doubt that the work is urgent and necessary, but I regret to note that the appeal reflects the growing tendency to link the needs of the fabric with some other cause, all propaganda stressing the structural shortcomings of the building and omitting any mention of the less dramatic associated matter once the brochures have been issued.

Here at Winchester we have had two such appeals in recent years both laying great stress on the needs of the fabric—the first appeal associated with the desire to enlarge the funds of the Dean and Chapter and the second with the wish to endow the choir.

Queen's English

From Mr P. J. Millet, QC

Sir, Mr Levin's strictures on the pronunciation of the definite article "a" in the definite article "the" cannot be allowed to pass unchallenged. The practice which he condemns is, in fact, philologically correct, as the following explanation should demonstrate.

In theory, the definite article should be pronounced with a short "e" when the next word begins with a consonant, and with a long "a" when it begins with a vowel. In practice, however, Englishmen are seldom sufficiently fluent to select the apt noun in time to determine the correct pronunciation of its definite article when they utter it. Accordingly, correct English usage requires the interposition, between the definite article and its noun, of the word "er" or "um".

Since each of these words begins with a vowel, it not only gives the speaker time to grope for the appropriate noun, but enables him to pronounce the definite article with a long "a", confident in his immunity from criticism by Mr Levin. In polite society, Mr Levin,

End-of-term spirit

From the Principal of King's College, London

Sir, The Michaelmas term has just ended. Upon its last day, at the end of term service of the Holy Eucharist, in the college chapel here, well over 300 people took communion. The overwhelming majority of these were students and though a good number were students of theology most were not. In the previous week the service of reading and music for Advent, twice repeated, had been attended in the aggregate by more than a thousand people.

It has to be accepted that students in universities are not as present in public favour. The anti-democratic antics of a few and the unrepresentative attitudes of many student unions are the cause. The huge majority of students come to universities to work for a degree while they mature in company of their own age. If they came more to Union general meetings less would be done in their name of which, if they knew or thought about it, they might disapprove. Most, however, are not really interested.

It may be regretted but it is also true that Union general meetings, even with a quorum of no more than four members, are not held very often or not always quorate. We are said to suffer in this college from what is sometimes described as "the apathy of King's". This might be no more than the absence of widely felt and burning discontent. Nearly every student I know—and I know very many in this and other places—would not dissent from being described as happy. They are also mostly good people. Times and manners have changed but I am sure that drugs are little used and that pruriosity is rare.

Looking around at the end of term congregations one could not help reflecting how much ordinary goodness was there. At a time of gathering gloom in a season that should be one of hope I find this hopeful. Perhaps others will too.

Yours faithfully,
J. W. HACKETT,
King's College London,
Strand, WC2.
December 13.

Financing the arts

From Mr John Letts

Sir, Most of the stories appearing recently about financial support for the arts tend to concentrate on the problems of maintaining the performing arts in the style to which they have become accustomed. It is, however, the cost of maintaining to shoulder the huge overhead cost of several national companies of opera, ballet and theatre may become insupportable in the medium term. But it may be that other and humbler—and cheaper—burdens are being shed already.

Discretionary grants should be made to museums and libraries as to have in the current year—now—what is called "a negative growth rate", or, in terms the average citizen will understand, an actual cut of 4.9 per cent against a projected increase of 1.6 per cent. This would be necessary to stay the same place. This appears to be a plan to save almost £8m from the most easily raided and the most lightly defended of all sectors enjoyed by the public, museums.

You say, Sir, that the arts make no sense. It is the balance of payments (a view which would be resisted by Sotheby's and Christie's) and that the size of the audience will not persuade the Government of its claims to parity. never mind priority (though the museums have been granted disproportionately as the National Trust and should be strongly resisted—that it is easier to defend the outlay of £8m to enable us to go on making the same minor cycles in Moriden and Coventry than it is to spend exactly the same sum on maintaining the museums and galleries which attract the tourists whose spending is far more vital to our current balance of payments.

But new ways to afford the arts will undoubtedly be found, and quickly, our sense of relative values being what it is. Suppose the Treasury agreed to allow industrial firms to direct up to 2 per cent of their Corporation Tax bill to the arts. Incidentally, between 1950 and 1970 Sir Barber and the 52 per cent of Mr Reale) to approved spending on the arts? Can we be certain the money would be less well spent for the community in any meaningful sense?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN LETTS, Chairman,
National Heritage,
202 Great Suffolk Street, SE1.

Hambone Chorus

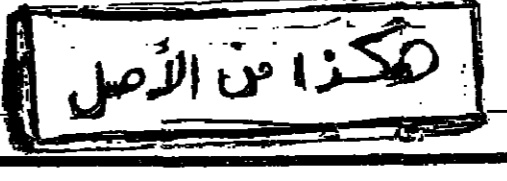
From Mr John Hall

Sir, My first introduction to Bernard Levin's "Hambone Chorus" and, indeed, to *Faust*, was at school in 1934. Our version was:

"Our soldiers
"Eating bread and jam"
and continued
"like it better than sugar
and ham."
Yours sincerely,
JOHN HALL,
31 Epple Road, SW6

From Miss E. Simpson

Sir, I am indebted to Mr Levin for my musical education via your newspaper but whence came he by his strange intelligence regarding *Faust*? The "Hambone Chorus" has ever been "Our Tomcu" Yours faithfully,
E. SIMPSON,
105 Boyds Walk,
Duckinfield,
Cheshire,
December 11.



SPORT

Looking's return gives West Ham something else to smile about

nan Fox... has not been a smiling... yesterday to hear John... about his team's emerg...

Jennings and Robson have brought... best from these players and... Faddon and Gould have formed...

inevitable relegation victims... will find the going even more... difficult because of the tight...

Progressing from chips to champagne

nan Fox... today's second round of... most of the non-league...

field Town, who have more points... than any other League side and... have scored 48 goals.

and the other—some 10 feet—... because they are a former... Wycombe defender in Delaney...

Union

are given chance to remind selectors of his quality

West... correspondent... North that their side lost by... the unconvincing 13-12.

North that their side lost by... the unconvincing 13-12. A... reputation of that seems un...

Cricket

England fall through bad strokes and to brilliant catching

By John Woodcock... Cricket Correspondent... Perth, Western Australia, Dec 13

to Underwood. Arnold has been... having a poor tour. Underwood...

What made England's score particularly... disappointing was that... batting, if not as easy as it can be...

Not until Cowdrey had been... batting for 75 minutes, with some... serenity, was Thomson let loose...

Halfway through the afternoon... the white haze, were all out after... 49 runs and 10 wickets.

When Cowdrey hooked at him... he was hit on the chest. This was one... of Cowdrey's rare moments of...

Squash rackets

Unrated Swede matures at seed's expense

By Rex Bellamy... Squash Rackets Correspondent... Mikael Hellstrom, aged 24, of...

professional. Muncer, who has... twice reached the last four, was...

Weekend fixtures

- FA Cup second round... Ayrton v Gateshead... Bishop Auckland v Preston (2.0)

First division

- Arsenal v Leicester... Carlisle v Chelsea... Coventry v Newcastle



Cowdrey turns to leave the wicket. He had moved across to get behind the line and was bowled behind his legs. Thomson's elation shows. Greig is the other batsman.

Test scorecard

Table with columns for England and India, listing players and their runs/wickets. Includes a 'Total' row and a 'FALL OF WICKETS' section.

Hockey

England building a tower of World Cup strength

By Sydney Friskin... It was once said that the divi... sional hockey tournament was the...

The first match near North... and England should be more than a... mere curtain-raiser.

Scottish FA Cup

- First round... Inverness Caledon... Gala Fairydean (2.15)

Rugby Union

- Area trials... Glasgow v Edinburgh... Edinburgh v Glasgow

Scottish first division

- Clyde v Aberdeen... Dundee v Celtic... Hibernian v Dumbarton

Rugby League

- First division... Wakefield v Leeds... Leeds v Wakefield

Tomorrow

- Rugby League... Wakefield v Leeds... Leeds v Wakefield

Ralston back today to lead Richmond

By Peter West... It is heartening news for the... England selectors that Ralston, the...

Southern League

- First round... Brighton v Brighton... Brighton v Brighton

Northern Premier League

- First round... Bradford v Bradford... Bradford v Bradford

Arturians League

- First round... Oldham v Oldham... Oldham v Oldham

Road walking

- Cambridge Harriers Open 7 miles... 2.50

Squash rackets

- British Open amateur championship... 1st round

a new era with Sweeney and Cox

talton... University gained a new... season following the...

Sprague and Yoncken; and... Stoddard from this year's Oxford...

potential, and now over to Messrs... Sweeney and Cox.

Out among the

trial over Keron and Stuart... (internationals in 1973);

Cambridge Blues;

74 Cambridge Blues;

مكتبة من الأصول

SEA Advanced technology for Mining

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

LAING LOCAL OR NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION SERVICE

OPEC 'simplified pricing' decision could make oil an extra 1p a gallon dearer

Oil prices could rise by 1p a gallon across the board because of a decision by OPEC...



Mr. M. O. Feyide of Nigeria has been made secretary general of OPEC...

OPEC countries have been selling crude on the open market. The price revision by Saudi Arabia...

Until now the four American partners in Aramco—Exxon, Mobil, Texaco and Standard Oil...

1 sent to Authi workers

Authi workers' strike continues. The company's financial position is precarious...

£50m short-term aid for British Leyland

Bankers' guarantees up to a maximum of £50m will be offered to British Leyland...

Societies' receipts near 1974 high in November

November was another good month for the building societies with net receipts of £178m...

One reason for the reduction is the need of societies to maintain very high liquidity levels...

Germany aims to stop oil interests secretly buying into key industries

From Dan van der Vat Bonn, Dec 13 West Germany is to prevent the acquisition by state oil interests of shares in key industries...

His warning came 10 days after it was disclosed that the Kuwait Government had acquired a 14 per cent stake in Daimler-Benz AG...

enthusiasm of others was dampened because Mercedes is a prestige vehicle of the kind an oil sheikh might hand out to his staff as a bonus...

Recruitment ban to pare state airline losses

By Arthur Reed Air Corporation recruitment ban for vital operational staff has been imposed by the management of British Airways...

Gilt-edged market and pound revive as minimum lending rate is held at 11 1/2 pc

By Melvyn Westlake Both sterling and government bonds enjoyed more favourable conditions in City markets yesterday...

In the event the average rate for Treasury bills at the tender rose just 0.0054 per cent to 10.9944 per cent...

of England on speculators who had sold sterling they did not possess. At one stage yesterday up to 40 per cent was being paid by speculators to borrow back sterling to meet their commitments...

Airlines veto cutbacks on Atlantic run

Washington, Dec 13—American attempts to reduce transatlantic flights to help financially ailing Pan American World Airways have failed...

Search in Britain for executive of US bank

By Our Financial Staff Police and private detectives are searching the country for a leading consortium banker who fled to Northampton hospital three weeks ago...



Mr Pryor: left hospital.

Court halts Pacific coin margin sales

Los Angeles, Dec 13—Pacific Coast Coin Exchange, the largest United States seller of gold and silver coin investment contracts, agreed yesterday to halt margin sales after government charged it with fraud in the sale of securities...

Sterling rally lifts equities

Sterling's improvement brought a rally in equities yesterday. Helped also by City relief that the Bank's minimum lending rate was unchanged...

Government stake proposed for Aston

Young Martin's board will on Monday an offer of aid made yesterday would result in the Government taking a quarter share...

the Government's conditions are met. At the initial meeting between the company and the Government...

Shipyard electricians stay out

Electricians at Swan Hunter who stopped work a month ago over a pay dispute yesterday agreed to stay out after they had been expected to agree to go back...

Lombard North Central's profits down by £13.3m

By Christopher Wilkins Profits of Lombard North Central, the finance house subsidiary of National Westminster Bank, slumped by £13.3m to £5.6m in the year to the end of September...

estimates that the average cost of money to it during the year was 12.13 per cent, compared with 8.3 per cent in the previous year...

Herstatt case bankruptcy action deferred

Cologne, Dec 13—The threat of an immediate bankruptcy hearing in the Herstatt bank case has been averted, according to an insolvency court judge here...

Talks collapse on sugar for UK

Representatives of the 18 African, Caribbean and Pacific sugar-producing countries ended their talks yesterday without reaching agreement on the supply of 1.4 million tons of sugar to Britain under an EEC agreement...

Table with market data: Cement, W, Mill, Gas, Bank, Lons, J. Ord, LCP Hldgs, Taylor Woodrow, etc.

Date left open for freeing of scrap sales to Community

By Peter Hill Controls on the export of ferrous scrap to the EEC are to be lifted, but because of difficulties in Brussels no date has yet been fixed...

Four million are jobless in EEC

From Richard Wigg Paris, Dec 13 There are at present almost four million unemployed in the nine EEC countries, according to a survey just published by the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development...

£4.9m setback for Burton Group

Pre-tax profits of the Burton Group fell from £3.3m to £3.4m in the year to August 31. The figure was struck after taking into account profits on sales of properties totalling £3.9m...

RETAIL PRICES

Table showing retail prices for various goods like All items, seasonal food, etc.

Bank Base Rates Table

Table with bank base rates and company meeting reports.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Finance Bill: capital transfer tax

Cooler climate for the generous

One common illusion is that capital transfer tax—the details of which have now been published in the Finance Bill—is a tax which applies only to the very rich indeed, and that the rest of us can safely ignore it.

Not so. It is a tax payable by everyone who gives during his lifetime, and on his death, £15,000 or more. If inflation continues at the present rate, that may represent an average annual wage, or if you like, the cost of a weekly season ticket. Even now, it will only buy one quite modest home...

cease to be a spontaneous, open-handed affair, but will need to become devious. Take the two similar cases of Mr A and Mr B, both of whom wish to take their sons into partnership in their businesses, each diminishing his own estate by £30,000. Incidentally, the basis of charge to tax is not the amount by which the donee's property is increased, but the amount by which the donor's is diminished...

light of the new tax. So will all insurance policies which have been taken out to provide funds to meet death duties. In some cases, the value of the policies will be too big, in others too small.

Oliver Stanley

Finance Bill: insurance

New ground rules for life policies

This week's Finance Bill has given the life assurance industry plenty to think about, as in immense detail, it sets out to block various tax "loopholes". In the main, it is what one would expect after the Chancellor of the Exchequer's March Budget speech and the statement issued at the time.

At one stage it looked as there would be a clawback if 15-year policies should be surrendered after 14 years, but if it had been taken out for years in the first place. It appears as if that objection has been overcome.

Savings

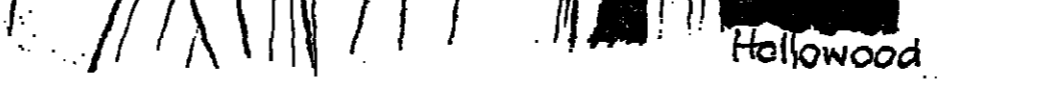
What price our nest-eggs now?

A complex of reasons, moral, social and economic, supports the view that a man ought to save some part of his income during most parts of his life; his independence and self-reliance, his responsibilities for his dependants, his relationship with his other citizens, his duty as a member of a society whose future is pledged to economic progress.

of 7.6 per cent. But substantial amounts of earlier issues are also outstanding, including £350m of the first nine issues made before 1956.

There are those who say that if all the economists in the world were laid end to end they would not reach a conclusion, whereas there are others who argue that there is no need to go that far, proof being satisfied by the fact that a combination of any three of them will produce five different opinions.

Up to our necks in goulash after a helping of paprikanomics



... as soon as dolly-birds start talking about any particular type of investment... it is time for the professionals to unload.

But perhaps the most substantial improvement to be made is by reassessing to how much of his savings the investor needs immediate access. The price to be paid for ready encashment is high, but it is often made a prime consideration when choosing an investment.

Some of these issues are now only yielding 1 1/2 per cent and only in a few cases more than 3 1/2 per cent.

Nowadays, of course, economists are rewarded with fame and fortune in direct proportion to the amount of damage caused by the practical application of their policies. This has particular relevance to our present situation, since we are about to experience the practicalities of what is known in the trade as the Hungarian Connection.

Francis Kinsman

Never was the need for this propaganda greater than in these inflationary ages, and rarely has the citizen's social responsibility to save been a less profitable business.

But before 1967 it was not unusual for building society investment to provide a genuinely positive rate of return as in the years 1962-1963, 1965-1966 and 1967-1968.

The theories emanating from this dual, but somewhat passé, source have already reduced the economies of four or five other countries into a shambles. However, fate clearly has in store for us a stronger dose of paprikanomics than any nation has ever suffered before, so at any moment we can expect to find ourselves right in the goulash.

John Drummond

But before 1967 it was not unusual for building society investment to provide a genuinely positive rate of return as in the years 1962-1963, 1965-1966 and 1967-1968.

But it is felt that negative rates would not have been accepted if they had been foreseen, and that an offer of anything less than 2 1/2 per cent might be a commercial failure.

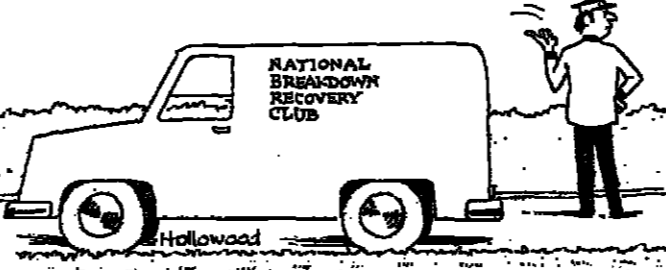
Car insurance

Breakdown service to the rescue

As far as I am aware, only one motor insurance policy provides a recovery service after a breakdown. Norman Frizzell Motor and General Limited administers the motor insurance for 350,000 policyholders with a large syndicate at Lloyd's and the standard comprehensive policy can provide some "breakdown" cover on payment of an extra premium of 25p.

offering insurance, but were not meeting the requirements of authorized insurers. The Automobile Association, however, is recognized as an authorized insurer so far as its recovery services are concerned.

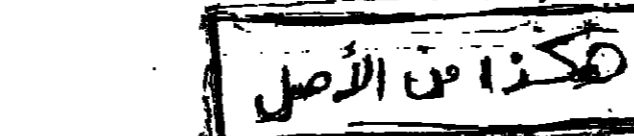
... help can be sent to a stranded motorist through any one of more than 120 depots.



Unit trust performance

Table with columns for Unit Trusts, Medium fund, and performance metrics. Includes entries like Gartmore British, Legal & General, etc.

Michael Bayliss



ED BY MARGARET STONE

FINANCIAL NEWS

MC strategy • Old store r discounters

Market investors received a sharp reminder last week of national economic factors which lie behind the City's pessimism.

More than a decade British oil majors or its successor, Standard Motor Corporation, has been one of the great shareholders of the company.

Johnstone of new issues in 1972 some of the oil majors were the retail discounters, only it is difficult to be of the stocks, but holders have in some their investments fall cent or more.



Mr Albert Gubay, former chairman of Kwik Save.

The fact that the share price is now the launch price is for it is rare that can survive the £12m of the shares upon an un-



Mr A. C. Southon, chairman of MFI Warehouses.

are significant pointers to present prospects. And it is a similar story at Comer Radiovision, where the share price is now at 14p some 96p below the subscription rate of 110p in January, 1972.

Henry Thornton was allocated the £2,000 worth of local authority negotiable bonds for which he applied last week at par and at a rather higher coupon than he expected at 14 1/2 per cent.

Which? on inflation

Which? one of the useful publications of the Consumers' Association, everyone else had a flat, or rather inflation, or rather inflation.

Surplus on property sales alone keeps Burton Group in profit

The expected slide in profits at Burton Group in the year to end August takes the form of a fall in the pre-tax profit from £8.3m to £2m.

The formal offer from Sears Holdings for housebuilding and property group Galliford has been accepted.

Galliford published its last accounts early last month. They showed an asset value of 184p a share.

Galliford shareholders who bought at the peak price of 12p in 1968 (there has been three for two scrip issue since) may feel consoled to get 40p cash now, or take Sears shares and some cash of 34p a share.

UK problems hit Walmsley (Bury)

Crippling increases in labour and material costs, the inability to obtain the required level of shift operation and the effects of the three-day week all made for a bad year to September 30, especially in the United Kingdom, for Walmsley (Bury), the papermaking machinery specialist.

A second half in which profits fell 42 per cent to £719,000 pre-tax meant the company was unable to improve on the 38 per cent interim decline and ended the 12 months 41 per cent down at £1.1m.

Greene, King & Sons

Last year was a record for Greene, King & Sons, the Suffolk-based brewers, but this year, because of lower margins, the best the board can predict is that profits will be maintained. In the half year to

Silver closes higher

New York, Dec. 13.—After marking time for much of today, the New York stock market sagged in the late afternoon and closed lower in quiet trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 3.60 points to finish at 292.77, after posting four straight gains in the week. It was ahead about three points at midday, its best level.

Wall Street

Dec 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 -1 -2 -3 -4 -5 -6 -7 -8 -9 -10 -11 -12 -13 -14 -15 -16 -17 -18 -19 -20 -21 -22 -23 -24 -25 -26 -27 -28 -29 -30 -31 -32 -33 -34 -35 -36 -37 -38 -39 -40 -41 -42 -43 -44 -45 -46 -47 -48 -49 -50 -51 -52 -53 -54 -55 -56 -57 -58 -59 -60 -61 -62 -63 -64 -65 -66 -67 -68 -69 -70 -71 -72 -73 -74 -75 -76 -77 -78 -79 -80 -81 -82 -83 -84 -85 -86 -87 -88 -89 -90 -91 -92 -93 -94 -95 -96 -97 -98 -99 -100

Interest charges have jumped from £2.5m to £4.5m, reflecting both higher interest rates and increased borrowings, while the costs of closing down or reorganizing unprofitable ventures has run out at over £2.2m.

October 31 taxable profits moved up from £882,000 to £936,000 and while the board gives no figure they say the volume of beer sales was well ahead of last year and the group's market share continues to grow.

Nasty surprise from Pegler Hattersley

Dealers on the Stock Exchange were taken by surprise yesterday. They put the shares 6p down to a new "low" of 42p, against a 1973-74 peak of 236p.

Profits slipped even before writing down metal stocks (by £112,000 to £356m) as Pegler came up against price controls and the building slump, which hit its plumbers' brassware and heating accessories.

Metal merger shelved

Talks about a merger between Charles Clifford Industries and Metal Products (Willenhall) have been deferred by mutual agreement, because of uncertain economic and trading conditions. Both boards are in

Contracting side checks ATV

Apart from ATV Network, all of the ATV Corporation's main divisions turned in excellent results in the 27 weeks to September 29. The setback in television contracting was, of course, forecast in the last annual report, and was largely responsible for the 27 per cent drop in group pre-tax profits to £24.3m against an improvement in overall sales from £25.3m to £27.2m.

Stock markets

Better performance from gilts

The first week of the trading account ended with a useful technical rally, which reflected the more confident tone of the pound and the unchanged Bank of England minimum lending rate.

The FT index rose by 2.2 to 152.2, to reduce the fall on the week to 9.3 points, or about 6 per cent. Recorded bargains, at 5.94, remained low, indicating that the buying came mostly from bear closers, rather than institutional investors.

Jonas Woodhead accelerates

Reporting the preceding year sales and profits at fresh peaks, Jonas Woodhead & Sons, Leeds-based vehicle suspension specialists, appear to have been somewhat cautious in July on prospects for the current year.

Interim loss of Victoria Carpet

Although the United Kingdom company recorded a small profit, the combination of very adverse trading conditions in Australia and the effect of the revaluation of the Australian dollar have produced a group loss of £105,000 before tax against a profit of £453,000 at Victoria Carpet Holdings. The board feels that current trading conditions may continue until the year end, but it is expected that there will be an improvement on these results in the second half.

Turnover is down from £4.3m to £4m. Shareholders will receive an interim of 0.64p, against 0.62p gross (maintained at 0.43p net) while the year's total is expected to dip from 3.41p to 1.94p (from 2.3p to 1.3p net).

Latest dividends

Table with columns: Company, Dividend, Yield, etc. listing various companies and their dividend details.

Moderna now faced with cash counter-bid

Having agreed some six weeks ago to a bid from Bond Worth Holdings, worth about £67p a share in loan stock exchange, Moderna (Witney) is now faced with a counter-bid from Mountain Securities offering some 61p cash for each Moderna ordinary.

Initial services likely to slow in second half

Higher first half profits and turnover, but lower margins are reported from Initial Services, but the board gives a warning to shareholders not to expect the second half to produce a similar profit increase.

Seagrams £13m Scottish spending drive

On the heels of the Distillers Company announcing a cut back in whisky production, American-controlled Seagram Distillers unveils a near £13m investment programme in Scotland.

The Messina (Transvaal) Development Company Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Summary of Group Results

Table with columns: R000's, 1974, 1973. Rows include Profits before Tax, Profits after Tax, Profit attributable to Messina Shareholders, Earnings (cents per share), Dividends (cents per share).

The Chairman, Commander H. F. P. Grenfell, D.S.C., R.N. (Ret'd) and Directors state in their Report for year to 30th September 1974 that:

- Consolidated profits attributable to shareholders increased to R19M which represents an increase of 72 per cent over the last financial year.
The rise in profits was mainly due to the high level of copper prices experienced during the period January-June 1974.
All subsidiary and associated companies acquitted themselves well although Datsun suffered a fall in profits caused principally by a shortage of components in the first half of the year.
Premier Metal had another excellent year. Profits after tax trebled since acquisition by the Company two years ago.
The Company has now taken an interest in the manufacture and distribution of television equipment. Profit contribution is likely to commence in 1975/76 after the advent of television in South Africa.
The year's results are highly satisfactory as a means of strengthening the Group's financial position. They should however be regarded as a welcome windfall, rather than a pointer to the immediate future.

Canadian Prices

Table listing various Canadian companies and their share prices.

Foreign exchange

Table showing exchange rates for various currencies.

Commodity Index

Table showing commodity prices for various goods.

Share prices

Table listing various share prices and market movements.

MARKET REPORTS

Tin price rise extended in late trading

A changed view on this week's London Metal Exchange stocks boosted Tin prices yesterday.

Commodities

Commodity prices showed mixed movement. Tin prices rose significantly, while other metals like copper and zinc were flat.

Foreign Exchange

Sterling rises by 60 points. The London gold price rose by a further \$4.00 an ounce to \$179.75.

Spot Position of Sterling

Market rates for sterling in London and other major financial centers.

Forward Levels

Forward exchange rates for sterling against major currencies.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

Table listing Eurobond prices for various countries and maturities, including 3-month, 6-month, and 12-month terms.

Spot Position of Sterling

Market rates for sterling in London and other major financial centers.

Forward Levels

Forward exchange rates for sterling against major currencies.

No issue between parties relief refused

Barling Brothers & Co Ltd v ICI Pension Fund Securities Ltd. The court refused to grant relief from the pension fund's obligations.

Discount market

Discount houses had to contend yesterday not only with the market's nervousness about a possible move in the Bank of England.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 12 1/2%. Treasury Bill yields and other market rates.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Large table listing authorized units, insurance policies, and offshore funds with columns for name, bid price, offer price, and yield.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Continuation of the table listing authorized units, insurance policies, and offshore funds.

Court of Appeal

Back yard not part of exterior of house. Judgment delivered Dec 10.

When a moth remarries

Burlison v Official Solicitor. A case about property rights and inheritance.

Observance of affidavit rule

Arson charges. A case involving a fire and legal proceedings.

Slower driving

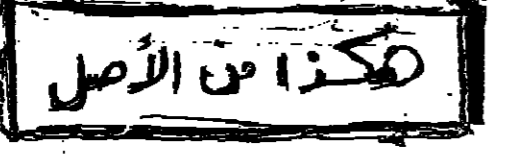
Slower driving. A case about roadblocks and traffic regulations.

The Times Share Indexes

Table showing share index data for various categories like Industrial, Financial, and General.

Bank Base Rates

Table listing bank base rates for major banks like Barclays, FNC, and Hill Samuel.





Stock Exchange Prices Technical rally

كنا من الأصل

IF YOU HOLD SHARES

You can exchange them on favourable terms for units in any of 25 Save & Prosper Group funds...

SAVE & PROSPER GROUP

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Dec. 9. Dealings End Dec. 23. Contango Day, Dec. 24. Settlement Day, Jan. 7. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Main table containing stock exchange prices, organized into columns for various sectors like COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL, FINANCIAL TRUSTS, MONWEALTH AND FOREIGN, and RUBBER. Includes sub-sections like 'GN STOCKS' and 'S AND DISCOUNTS'.

Adjusted for changes in dividend... Share price figures are given in pence and fractions of a penny...

Postal and Weekend Shopping

THE LARGEST SELECTION OF TOP QUALITY

TEAK & ROSEWOOD DANISH FURNITURE IN ENGLAND

OVER 30 UNITS TO CHOOSE FROM

QUALITY & PRICES CANNOT BE MATCHED BY ANY OTHER SUPPLIER

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY DIRECT SELLING PRICES

Superb Continental Wall Units in many different designs

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERS!

CERAMIC TOP TABLE (choice of colours) £199.95

Aluminium Cabinet Trolley white £39.75

DOUBLE SHELF TROLLEY £39.95 very reasonable

SMOKE GLASS CHROME TABLE £79.95

Coffee Table (40" long x 18" wide) (17" high) £14.50

SEE our vast range of beautifully made Danish Dining Tables and Chairs—also Bedroom Furniture and upholstery—DELIVERY BEFORE CHRISTMAS!

*** All goods stored free-of-charge until required**

*** Credit facilities** * Full after-sales service

*** Write for brochures and price lists**

THE FAMOUS BR WALL SYSTEM EXCLUSIVE TO WHARFSIDE

BOTH WAREHOUSES OPEN SUNDAYS 9am - 2pm

SAVE ££££ OFF NORMAL RETAIL PRICES

Wharfedale Furniture Supplies Ltd. LONDON 66 Rotherhithe Street (off Pitfield Street), N.E.1. Tel.: 01-253 3206. Open SUNDAYS 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Tues.-Fri 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (Closed Sat).

ILFORD 49 Ilford Lane. Tel.: 01-478 7546. Open SUNDAYS 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon., Tues. & Thurs. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Wed. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Fri. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Closed Sat).

APPROX 50% OFF LIST PRICE

These new, near perfect Scandinavian designed Kitchen units are so versatile that you'll be able to equip your kitchen—and save £55's. Ready assembled, they take care of every kitchen storage problem and provide generous work-top surfaces.

SPECIAL PURCHASE of Leading Manufacturer's COMPLETE RANGE OF KITCHEN UNITS

BUYERS & SELLERS LIMITED

TELEPHONE 01-928 5867/7
OPEN MON.-SAT. 9.30-5.30 (11.30-2.30 THURS.)
AFTER 5.30 TELEPHONE 01-228 1947

NIGHTSHIRTS and Matching Caps FOR CHRISTMAS

Long After the Joke's over, your Present is a warm sleeping shirt or house garment.

CANDLE HOLDERS 39

Winceyette

£4.99 Knee Length
£5.99 Ankle Length

COTTON

£6.50 Knee Length
£6.99 Ankle Length

38p P. & P. 1st Class Post till Christmas

Slate Chest size and 2nd colour choice when ordering

BEDLAM

811 Fulham Road/Mimosa St. London, S.W.6.

Where else could you buy genuine leather at this price?

Unit **£175** (excl. VAT & carriage)

Other hide suites from £294 (excl. VAT & carriage)

Only Martin Barnett can import this luxury leather furniture direct from Brazil.

Delivery can be made within seven days of your order. And credit arranged if you like.

But hurry; furniture like this at prices like these doesn't stay long in stock!

Martin Barnett

Finchley Central London Epsom
183/191 Ballards Lane, 11 Ballsbridge Street, 137 High Street,
Finchley, London N3, Marylebone Lane, W1 Epsom, Surrey
Tel: 01-449 2516 Tel: 01-835 2363/4 Tel: Epsom 40301/2

Bournemouth 5.7 The Triangle, Bournemouth Tel: 293112/3

LONDON'S LARGEST SELECTION of TYPEWRITERS & CALCULATORS

UP TO 45% OFF

TEXAS 2000 only £12.50

TEXAS 2500 Datamath £18.50

DECIMO 600P £79.50

GRUNDIG £19.50

CBM 3PM £19.50

ERIKA 42 £19.50

FREE DELIVERY

MARBLE ARCH TYPEWRITER CO.

MARBLE ARCH: 5 CHANCERY RD., LONDON, E.C.2. Tel: 01-492 5857
REGENT STREET: 27 REGENT ST., W.1. Tel: 01-492 5827
CITY: 11-15 CROWN ST., E.C.4. 1 mile. Station House Lane Station. 01-253 5398
FINCHLEY: 123 BRILLIANT LANE, FINCHLEY, MIDDLESEX. Tel: 01-396 7155

SECOND TO NONE ON QUALITY - PRICE - DELIVERY

Reproduction Furniture Leather Upholstery

Louis XV and XVI upholstered.

Centre Reproductions

112-122 Tabernacle St., E.C.2. Tel. 251 1351

Open Monday-Thurs: 9.30-6
Friday late opening: 9.30-2 p.m.
Credit Facilities Available

WIN THE WAR AGAINST WINTER... AEONICS

Duvets are now in stock at Bedlam, with a selection of ready-made, or home sew-kits in any of 5 different fillings..... See the lot at **BEDLAM**

BEDLAM SHOP HOURS

MONDAY-SATURDAY 10.0 a.m.-6.0 p.m.
WEDNESDAY TILL 8.0 p.m.
811 FULHAM ROAD/MIMOSA STREET LONDON, S.W.6. TEL: 01-731 2285

Access BARCLAYCARD welcome here

LOUNGE SUITES GALORE!

MANUFACTURED BY US DIRECT TO YOU AT FACTORY PRICES (other makes also stocked (credit facilities available))

This Sunday, 15th December

9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.

TRADE DIRECT FURNITURE SERVICE

209 Hackney Road, London E2 Tel. 01-739 5125

From £25, but you have to know where to go.

To Persian Carpet Wharf, Where carpets and rugs from some of the most sozated and primitive tribes in the Orient cost far less. How?

Modest surroundings. Low overheads. Every Sunday from 9.00 am - 2.00 pm at Regent Street, Canal Dock, Mill Place, Off Commercial Rd London E14. Or phone 01-493 7747 for free colour brochure.

Persian Carpet Wharf
London-Manchester-Edinburgh

TRADE PRICES OFFERED!

BATHROOM SUITES IN ALL COLOURS

White, terracotta, pink, turquoise, sky blue, avocado, champagne, sun line, herringbone & geometric. Midnight blue, silver, brass, black, brown, maple, cherry, white and oyster.

ALL AT HUGE SAVINGS

Visit showrooms today
143/147A Essex Rd, Islington N1 or phone J. Birch, 225 5657 or 225-7220 for details.

We regret no brochures or price lists issued.

ASTON MATTHEWS LTD

EDS BRITAIN'S LEADING TV & AUDIO CENTRE

COLOUR TV	RADIO RECORDERS	Video Recorders
Hitachi 12" £129.00	Winn 12" £99.00	Uher 3000 £139.00
Philips 12" £139.00	Monaco 12" £109.00	Uher 3000 £139.00
ITC 12" £149.00	Yamaha 12" £119.00	Uher 3000 £139.00
Grundig 12" £159.00	Yamaha 12" £119.00	Uher 3000 £139.00
Grundig 12" £159.00	Yamaha 12" £119.00	Uher 3000 £139.00
Grundig 12" £159.00	Yamaha 12" £119.00	Uher 3000 £139.00

EDS 209 Hackney Road, London E2 Tel. 01-739 5125

EM SAVE E & S's ON HI-FI - TV - TAPE

ACCESS/BARCLAYCARD. CREDIT FACILITIES ALSO AVAIL.

FREE RADIO 111 worth £3.25 when you purchase any of the following:

SONY CF240 Radio/Cassette. (NEW F1) NATIONAL R24435 Radio/Cassette. SW LW1. Rec. Price £52.95. Our Price £54.95. Our Price £49.50. £47.62.

SONY CF150 Radio/Cassette. Rec. Price £25.23. Our Price £28.45.

NATIONAL 28" Colour TV. Rec. Price £255.23. Our Price £199.00.

JENSEN, KEF, TECHNICS, DUAL, GRUNDIG, GOLDRING, QUAD, P.O.A.

EM 5/11s Marketing Supplies (Electric) 120, 5 Adolphi Way, Perlethorpe, Barton Hill, SW2 1RN. 01-739 6708. Close to Brixton Station (SURLY).

UP TO 45% OFF

BISHOPSGATE TYPEWRITER CO.

433 BISHOPSGATE LONDON, E.C.2. Tel: 01-253 5348

123 BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2. Tel: 01-253 5348

123 BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2. Tel: 01-253 5348

123 BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2. Tel: 01-253 5348

RUSH MATTING

Rush matting creates a warm and friendly atmosphere and wears well. We are the country's leading rush matting specialists and make any size to the nearest square foot. Rush about 20p, Maize round 30p.

ZIP LINK BEDS

Our beds are made in any length or width. Singles zip together even if one's soft and one's firm. They separate in a jiff for a snuff or a stiff. They're beautifully made and covered in no-nonsense ticking. Prices are most reasonable. e.g. a 3' x 6'3" is about £68.

FREE Brochure

Our full range includes: Continental Quilts Upholstered Furniture Cane Furniture Carpeting Dining Tables and Chairs

Write to Dept. T Rookmoor Mills Nr. Strood Glos GL5 5ND

Rookmoor Mills

'Backgammon'

Treat yourself to the action-packed game which is so popular with the Jet Set.

This stylish Backgammon Set is fitted in a smart slim simulated leather briefcase measuring 18 in. x 12 in. x 2 1/2 in. Fully fitted in pressed cork, with brass lock fastenings.

The set includes solid red and white melamine counters, 2 dice cups, 4 dice and 1 doubling cube.

Absolutely free of charge we will give you with each set a hard-back book (worth £1.95) on how to play Backgammon.

Add this superb set to your Christmas Shopping List now!

Send your cheque or postal order for £12.50 plus £1.00 p & p to:

S. A. Merchant Ltd.
61 Uxbridge Road, Shepherds Bush, London W12 5SA

up to 25% cash discount FURNITURE and BEDDING

PARADES LTD.

192, Kenton Road, Kenton Middlesex, and branches

- ★ Leading brands stocked
- ★ Most makes supplied
- ★ Delivery service
- ★ Fitted bedrooms/kitchens

FOR FULL DETAILS contact ANTHONY ROSS Sales Director

01-907 2222 or 6666

★ Telephone orders accepted ★

HANDIEST CLEANER EVER!

Dust, fluff, crumbs, ash, etc.—it simply sucks up the dirt into special containers ready to slip a lid and dispose of. Cleans clothes, carpets, rugs, curtains, upholstery, etc. your vacuum, one of our cleaners gives you an extra 50% more cleaning power. Includes batteries, 3500 RPM motor, 12' flexible hoses, 20' extension cord, 20' power lead, 20' power lead, 20' power lead.

NIGHTY MINI VACUUM OUR PRICE ONLY **£1.85** PLUS P&P

ECYTORA (Dept. TTSO), 47 Colindale Avenue, London, NW11

FREEZER CONTAINERS From SWED

- ★ CANNOT AFFECT THE F. OF FOOD.
- ★ SEE-THROUGH LID FOR IDENTIFICATION OF CONTENTS.
- ★ SNAP-ON LIDS ENSURE FRESHNESS.
- ★ 6 EACH OF 3 SIZES: 1 LITRE 1.5 LITRE 2 LITRE

We despatch the white we prefer your order!

'SCANPAK' 18 FOR ONLY £1.95 incl. VAT & p. & p.

Buy 18 SCANPAK LTD. 18 for only £1.95. Buy 36 for £3.95. Buy 72 for £7.95. Buy 144 for £15.95. Buy 288 for £31.95. Buy 576 for £63.95. Buy 1152 for £127.95. Buy 2304 for £255.95. Buy 4608 for £511.95. Buy 9216 for £1023.95. Buy 18432 for £2047.95. Buy 36864 for £4095.95.

Scanpak Ltd., 112-114 Tottenham Road, London, N.2. Tel: 01-253 5348

TYPEWRITERS, CALCULATORS, ADDING MACHINES, DICTIONARY MACHINES & PHOTOGRAPHERS

Send now for 5/6 Challenge NEW AND USED OFFICE MACHINES

One 1000 Home and Office machines in stock. All modern machines taken part complete—cheaply—very low prices. Our 10000 machine catalogue is a better buy than any.

BENNETT TYPEWRITERS LTD.

50 BURNHOLME ROAD, BURNHOLME, LEICESTERShire. Tel: 0533 23722
100 Regent Street, London, W.1. Tel: 01-492 5827
90 East Street, Deptford, London, S.13. Tel: 01-492 5827

An Elegant Gift

Battery operated Electronic Travel Alarm Clock

£9.95

Black lucasite effect case with silver colour trim. Simple controls. Switches. The simple alarm set. Electronic alarm. Fully adjustable and has built-in features. The alarm is adjustable by strength of tone. Models available in 12 and 15 models. Write to:

KIMBERLEY BINGHAM & CO. LTD.
for all types of Invalid Aids
10, The Quadrant, Birmingham, B1 1TT.
Tel: 021-443 9650.

Back home sooner

Designed specifically to enable you to get home sooner. It's a fully adjustable and has built-in features. The alarm is adjustable by strength of tone. Models available in 12 and 15 models. Write to:

KIMBERLEY BINGHAM & CO. LTD.
for all types of Invalid Aids
10, The Quadrant, Birmingham, B1 1TT.
Tel: 021-443 9650.

ALARM TORCH

Specialty designed for industrial use in dark rooms. It illuminates the work area. It has a built-in torch. It has a built-in torch. It has a built-in torch.

PLASTIC COATED SHELVING

Tough, hygienic, super quality steel shelving. Adjustable, rustproof, washable.

Size	Price
12" x 12" x 12"	£2.95
12" x 12" x 18"	£3.95
12" x 18" x 12"	£3.95
18" x 12" x 12"	£3.95
18" x 12" x 18"	£4.95
18" x 18" x 12"	£4.95
18" x 18" x 18"	£5.95

W. London Direct Supplies (TMS2)
169 Kensington High St., London, W.8

SNOW CHAINS FOR SHOES

Avoid nasty accidents. The same as those which make your shoes slip-proof on icy roads. They are made of a special material which does not melt in the snow. They are made of a special material which does not melt in the snow.

BE PREPARED DON'T SLIP

£1.75 per pair
Buy 2 for £3 + 20p p.p.
Dept. TM, 27 Steinheil Gate, Ldn, SW2

FRANKLIN MAGNIFIER JUST THE GIFT

Highlights text 3 or 4 times. A magnifier that is portable. It is a magnifier that is portable.

Buy 2 for £3 + 20p p.p.
Dept. TM, 27 Steinheil Gate, Ldn, SW2

TELEPHONE AMPLIFIER

Latest hand-dialed Telephone Amplifier with detachable plug in speaker.

£11.90 + VAT 85p
Manx Ltd. 27-29, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C.4. Tel: 01-492 5827

Fresh Flowers last for weeks

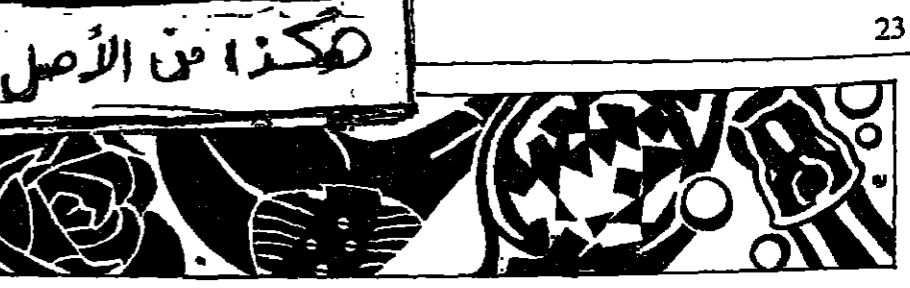
Too much or too little water—and you lose them. The ELECTRONIC tool instantly and precisely measures the moisture content of soil or potting compound by insertion briefly into each plant pot. Easy to use—like long accuracy—pocket size, battery covered with stainless steel probes in a nylon enclosure.

Patented design using up to the minute electronic circuitry. Direct from the manufacturer @ £5.95 + 15p p & p.

Just your name & address on or with cheque or P.O. order.

PLANTMETER and DOST to: PEKTRON Ltd., Alfreton Rd., Derby DE2 4AP





Christmas gift guide

For Everyone

BLACKMAN HARVEY LTD.

29 EARLHAM STREET, CAMBRIDGE. We have a choice of 500 stem graphics and 6,000 projections, and the fastest delivery service in town. Come to browse through our print and catalogue and we'll have a particular training sheet we shall be glad to post for you.

Call on us 836 1904 (5 lines)

EAT & SLIM THIS XMAS !!

Gift purchase. Limited stock. See name in catalogue. Price per pack.

ORIGINAL PRINTS DRAWINGS WATERCOLOURS

The 15th to 20th Century. Original prints, drawings, watercolours, etc. See name in catalogue.

AN EXHIBITION Large 3 of original prints, 1/3, 1/3, 1/3.

VER 36 PIECES of fine good quality

SOCIETY 22 white poppers

JOHN... London's exclusive

AND... London's exclusive

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

For Everyone

CHRISTMAS IN A LUXURY BATHROOM SUITE I

We offer large discounts on our wide range of hand over 1000s. Choose from our corner baths in black, white, or chrome. We also have a choice of 500 stem graphics and 6,000 projections, and the fastest delivery service in town.

THE BRITISH CROWN DERBY

A Subscription to APOLLO

A GIFT OF ROSES gives a donation

ROLLER BLINDS—hand painted

FEWERS IS PERSONAL

CAIS... London's exclusive

A CHRISTMAS PRESENT that will

PRINTS FOR PRESENTS—original

FRANK THE BASHIN LTD.

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

For Everyone

A COLLECTOR'S GIFT

Handwritten pottery, bottles, etc. See name in catalogue.

THE UPSTAIRS SHOP

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

SNUFF BOXES

FLYING HORSE OF KANSAS

ANGLOPHONE LAMPS BY TERRY

SANTA CLAUS has London Man

FOUR GIFTS OF DISSTRUCTION!

PREPARED TO RECEIVE

ROSMARIE LEATHER BAGS

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

IDEAL 1973 Christmas

The Times Christmas Gift Guide COMPETITION

What comes round once a year is full of tempting gift suggestions, and makes Christmas shopping a joy? You don't have to be good at riddles to answer that one—but how good are you at creating riddles? Test your skill, and win any one of these three super prizes for yourself for Christmas!

A WINE PACK

- 1 bottle Pol Roger white foil Champagne.
- 1 bottle Volnay red Burgundy.
- 1 bottle El Cid Sherry.
- 1 bottle Croft fine old port.

B CIGAR PACK

- 30 Corvanna Cigars in presentation box.

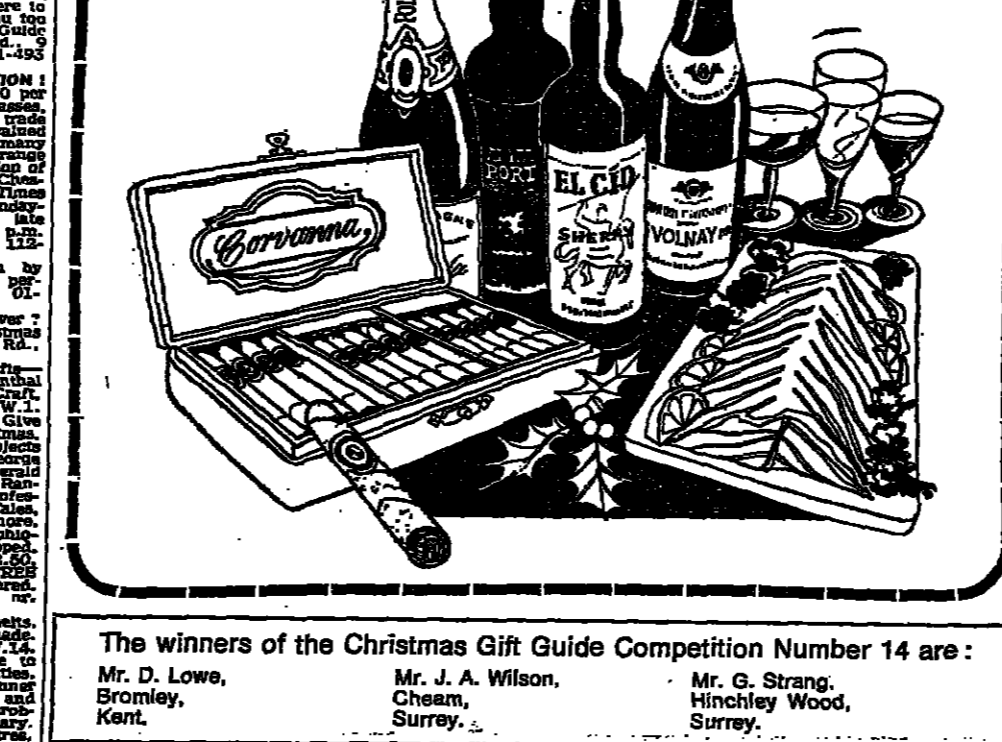
C SMOKED SALMON PACK

- Whole side of sliced Scotch smoked Salmon minimum weight 2lbs in sealed pack.

HERE'S HOW:
FIRST study the Guide carefully, THEN answer the following three simple questions (the answers are all in the advertisements in today's Guide).

1. Where are Florians?
2. What is the name of the book shop in Bromley?
3. How can you be unique this Christmas?

Next use your creative skill and compose a riddle (and give the answer) based on any one of the gifts on offer in today's Guide.



The winners of the Christmas Gift Guide Competition Number 14 are:

- Mr. D. Lowe, Bromley, Kent.
- Mr. J. A. Wilson, Chess, Surrey.
- Mr. G. Strang, Hinchey Wood, Surrey.

Christmas Holidays

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY IN TUNISIA

from £60. A last chance to join Christmas Special 15-day tour. Don't miss out for the festive season.

Oceanways Travel Services

25 Haymarket, London, SW1. 839 6555 ATOL 0118 ASTA.

For Her GIFTS TO TREASURE...

Rings, Lockets, Bangles, Bracelets, Earrings, Cigarette Cases, Pen Holders, Watches, Carder Lighters, All manner of Jewellery. All perfect gifts in gold or silver from £25-£5,000. Also a choice selection of Victorian and Antique Jewellery.

HOSTESS APRON

A full length apron for the modern hostess in elegant floral design, with white border, white length 22 1/2" - 24" - 26" - 28" - 30" - 32" - 34" - 36". Don't miss! £12.50 - 14.50 - 16.50 - 18.50 - 20.50 - 22.50 - 24.50 - 26.50 - 28.50 - 30.50 - 32.50 - 34.50 - 36.50.

UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS

27 Talbot Street, London W1M 1AG.

PACK FLAT TULA BAGS

Strong, soft leather bag in black, yellow or brown. Ideal for shopping and duty free. Size 15in. long x 10in. wide x 7in. deep. But can be packed flat. Recommended by Shell, Black, 14.12.73. Only 39.75 post free.

BUY DIRECT AND SAVE 88%

100% REAL LEATHER FULLY LINED. Money refunded in 7 days if not satisfied. Allow 7-21 days for delivery. See choice of 25-30 styles. Tel: 01-935 3366.

LA POMME D'AMOUR

115 Charlotte Street restaurant in the City. For pre-dinner drinks, for lunch, for dinner. Tel: 01-539 5202.

NICE BRASS'S

For wall notice boards, embroidered from India, Australia, etc. W.A. 100. Geese and other designs. Tel: 01-833 6662.

HOME LIGHTING

For the finest lighting, see choice of 25-30 styles. Tel: 01-935 3366.

For Her

Bewitched

That's the French word for Sorcery. A sophisticated French perfume that best bewitches to leave men spellbound. The warm floral bouquet is available as a extrait, perfume, or cream. Tel: 01-253 0000.

SECRET

Earl Noble is a beautiful fragrance for women whose love is to different. Its subtle, rare ingredients give it rather a discreet charm. Wear it every day and see what it does for you. Available as a Eau de Toilette, cream, or perfume. Tel: 01-253 0000.

SHORTBREAD MOULD

Buy your Shortbread Mould in the shape of a Christmas cake. Tel: 01-253 0000.

ELEGANT evening Catsuits

Available from £25. Tel: 01-253 0000.

FLORIAN'S

5 Lea Rd., Epsom, Surrey. Tel: 01-352 5599.

DRESSED PHEASANTS

Over 5,000 fine pheasants will be available through the season. Only top quality birds at only £2.25 per brace. Tel: 01-253 0000.

Emending Jewellery

45 Beauchamp Place, London W1. Tel: 01-589 0333.

A Christmas Gift to delight any palate.

Choose from our 9 varieties of mustard, the one to suit you.

CHELSEA RARE BOOKS

at 313 King's Road SW3 now have a new print gallery downstairs in addition to their usual range of books of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Mon-Sat. 9 to 6, Sun. 11 to 4.

Arpège de Lanvin

two words to be heard murmured behind a happy woman.

Eau Arpège in bottle and in atomizer
Parfume Arpège in bottle and handbag atomizer
A Veil of Arpège
Soap Arpège

For Her

Books

THE BOOK you'd like to give your loved one... Tel: 01-253 0000.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

5 Lea Rd., Epsom, Surrey. Tel: 01-352 5599.

FOR THE CHILDREN

FOR HIM

FOR THE HOME

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

FOR THE HOME

FOR THE HOME

FOR THE HOME

FOR THE HOME

FOR THE HOME

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 5

ADVERTISING... To place an advertisement in any of our categories tel: 01-837 3311

DEATHS

BURROWS - On December 11, 1974 at her home, Cheshire, Mrs. Mary Burrows, nee Mary Jones, aged 82 years, died.

DEATHS

WELDON - On December 13th, 1974 at her home, 15, St. George's Road, Weymouth, Dorset, aged 82 years, died.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FRANK BOUGH - appears on BBC 1 TV at 6.50 on December 17th, on behalf of the National Housing Association.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

Come Journey to the Past with Sovereign and Make It Last - Travel 2,000 years back in time to Ancient Rome.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

ITALY - "TOP TO TOE" with C.I.T. - Almost 20 years' experience and collaboration with the world's leading travel agencies.

FOR SALE AND WANTED

RESISTA CARPETS LTD - London's leading specialists in plain, patterned and Corlas from £1.40 per sq. yd.

FOR SALE AND WANTED

CARPETS EX-HIBITION (20-85p per sq. yd.) - Ideal Home/Olympia/Film - Half a million square yards of new carpets.

BIRTHS

AUSTIN - On December 10, 1974 at Northampton, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Austin.

MARRIAGES

RATHBONE - On December 10, 1974 at St. Paul's Cathedral, London, the Rev. Canon J. Rathbone and Mrs. J. Rathbone.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELP CONQUER CANCER with a League of Friends - Campaign to support research into the causes and cure of cancer.

CHRISTMAS AWAY

WANTED - ISLE OF WIGHT fair-weather holiday accommodation for Christmas and New Year.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

IN TUNISIA - from £60. A last chance to join Christmas Special 1974.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

BEAT THIS IF YOU CAN - Take a break this January in Crete, Athens or Rhodes.

FOR SALE AND WANTED

REGENCY MANOYRA flat - 2 bed, 2 bath, 19th century building, excellent location.

FOR SALE AND WANTED

ANTIQUE WALNUT RECTORERY - 18th century house, 12 rooms, 10 acres, 17th century garden.

DEATHS

ADAM - On December 11, 1974 at her home, 15, St. George's Road, Weymouth, Dorset, aged 82 years, died.

DEATHS

ADDEY - On December 11, 1974 at her home, 15, St. George's Road, Weymouth, Dorset, aged 82 years, died.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELL EDUCATED LADY, elderly, fully qualified, seeks position in school or college.

CHRISTMAS IN THE COTSWOLDS

DORMY HOUSE HOTEL, BROADWAY, WORCS. - Christmas in the Cotswolds, a most enjoyable holiday.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

IN TUNISIA - from £60. A last chance to join Christmas Special 1974.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

BEAT THIS IF YOU CAN - Take a break this January in Crete, Athens or Rhodes.

FOR SALE AND WANTED

REGENCY MANOYRA flat - 2 bed, 2 bath, 19th century building, excellent location.

FOR SALE AND WANTED

ANTIQUE WALNUT RECTORERY - 18th century house, 12 rooms, 10 acres, 17th century garden.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,868. Across: 1 "Teeth not your own" - and in such a voice? (8). 5 A girl of the Terriers sent back to POW camp (6).

HE'S LUCKY (we found him) Dave 16 - from a broken home. Then - in London - no job, no prospects, no friends. Now in the care of Shaftesbury Homes he has a home, regular meals and a job - better still a future.

WELL ADVERTISED WELL RECEIVED BELSIZ PARK UNFURNISHED FLAT 2 double beds, fitted kitchen, bathroom, etc.

The LOWEST RELIABLE DISCOUNT SCHEDULED AIR and the ABC FLIGHTS of the UK's AIR TRAVEL OPERATOR'S LIC. NEW YORK £71 NAIRO TORONTO £75 JOBU